

Volume 2 | Number 2 | Spring 2013

# B

Brooklyn College Magazine

## Your New Best Friend

Our Robots May Save Lives

Game Changers in Film and Television

Mentoring's Rich Rewards





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He's not an alumnus, so why is Kevin Bacon in our magazine? Turn to page ten to find out.

**Karen L. Gould, President**



from  
the

## PRESIDENT'S DESK

**B**rooklyn College has long been recognized for the beauty of its campus. Our alumni often share fond memories of talking with friends on the Quad or spending quiet evenings by the lily pond with that special someone. Little has changed in this regard over the past seventy-five years. Today, in good weather, our students still relax in the sun between classes and enjoy a peaceful oasis in the midst of our bustling city.

While each season offers its own special beauty, spring is my personal favorite. With it comes a sense of celebration and renewal as we turn our thoughts to the joys of commencement and the opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous accomplishments of our alumni, our faculty, and—most of all—our students.

This spring, there is once again much to celebrate. Members of our faculty have received national and international recognition for their work, which is a testament to the strength of our academic programs and the strong scholarly profile of our faculty. Of particular note, three professors from our Department of English were recently awarded Guggenheim Fellowships, one of the most prestigious awards granted to scholars in the United States and Canada. With only 175 Guggenheims awarded in 2013, we are fortunate indeed to count them among our ranks.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has also recognized the scholarship of our faculty. Professor Laurie Rubel in the Department of Secondary Education has received an NSF

grant to support innovative ways of teaching math, in collaboration with the Center for Urban Pedagogy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, while Professor Jennifer Adams in the Department of Secondary Education has received a Faculty Early Career Development Award from the NSF.

Our alumni also continue to inspire us with impressive achievements. Lucy Shapiro '62, director of the Beckman Center for Molecular and Genetic Medicine at Stanford University, was awarded the National Medal of Science in a White House ceremony this February. Upon granting the awards, President Obama noted that the recipients "...represent the ingenuity and imagination that has long made this nation great."

And, this year, our students have once again been honored with Fulbright Fellowships, Watson Fellowships, Salk Fellowships, and other noteworthy awards. More information about our students, faculty, and alumni award-winners is available in this edition of the magazine.

Another cause for celebration is the ever-increasing diversity of our college community. Our 16,500 students, ninety-eight percent of whom are from New York state, were born in 150 different countries and speak more than one hundred languages. They come from a variety of socioeconomic, racial, religious, and cultural backgrounds, and they participate in clubs for students from West Africa, Turkey, Russia, Panama, Korea, and more than a dozen other locations around the world.

We are, in fact, among the nation's top seventy-five most diverse universities and colleges. The number of Latino students in our entering class has more than doubled over the last decade. We are proud as well to be among the top forty schools in the country from which Latinos earn bachelor's degrees in education and master's degrees in psychology; we are as well among the top five institutions nationwide from which black students earn bachelor's degrees in accounting and master's degrees in social sciences. In fact, for the past several years more black students have graduated annually from

Diversity is not merely a data point; it is something we live.

With diversity of background comes diversity of perspective. Oftentimes, it leads to insight and inspiration—moments of discovery that enhance the unique and lasting impact of the collegiate experience. At other times, living our diversity can present challenges. It is at such times, however, that our students are encouraged to bring their own analyses and values to bear as they wrestle individually and collectively with issues of consequence in our time.

At Brooklyn College, we believe that diversity in all its

Members of our faculty have received national and international recognition for their work, which is a testament to the strength of our academic programs and the strong scholarly profile of our faculty.

Brooklyn College than any other college in our state.

We have attained a level of diversity to which many universities across the country can only aspire. Yet, while quantitative measures help us track student diversity numbers over time, they ignore the single most important aspect of diversity: the students themselves and their learning experience.

forms enriches our college community, and that ultimately we grow stronger and more resilient because of it. This spring, as the trees begin to bud, another generation of students is preparing to graduate on our magnificent Quad, knowing that they can stand proudly on the shoulders of the remarkable alumni who have come before them.



(Clockwise from left) A photo of student Rachell Evangelista's grandmother taken at age thirteen in the Dominican Republic; Penelope Terry, director of undergraduate admissions and recruitment, holds a photo of her mother from her family photo collection; Jahongir (John) Usmanov, a Brooklyn College graduate student in archival studies, displays an image of his ancestors.



## Digital Diaspora Family Reunion Celebrates the Diversity of Brooklyn College

Brooklyn College's history is one filled with intriguing stories about its multifaceted and far-reaching community, from the Trinidadian immigrant turned aspiring historian and Ph.D. candidate, to the college administrator who spent many of her formative years on campus.

These are exactly the kinds of stories that convinced documentary filmmaker Thomas Allen Harris to bring his Digital Diaspora Family Reunion to Brooklyn College last fall. The three-year multimedia project brings people together to assemble family photos and transforms those images into richly historical video albums. Harris then publishes these virtual albums to his website.

More than sixty students, alumni, faculty, and staff members participated in the weeklong event during which they donned plastic gloves and scanned in old photographs, sharing the stories behind the pictures. There were six "photo-sharing zones" across the campus where Harris's production crew filmed, photographed, and interviewed the participants. Several video montages of the week's work were shared at the event's grand finale.

"This is the first time we have come to a college campus," says Harris. "Brooklyn College was perfect because there is such great diversity here, yet when people shared their stories, there was often a common narrative. I found that intriguing."

So did Dane Peters '09. The aforementioned historian-in-training, who works for the Brooklyn College Community Partnership, understands well the importance of documenting the lives of everyday people.

When he started digging through his own family's history, he found out that a relative of his was the first to make a studio recording of calypso music in Trinidad and that he has a cousin who represented the West Indian team in international cricket competitions.

"Usually, historical actors are significant, and everyone else is insignificant," says Peters, who earned his bachelor's degree in Africana studies and political science. "This was an opportunity to make our relatives and ourselves significant."

Penelope Terry, director of undergraduate admissions and recruitment, shared photos from her family collection and realized there was actually a photo of

her on the campus when she was little. Her mother had worked at the college from the 1950s until the late 1980s.

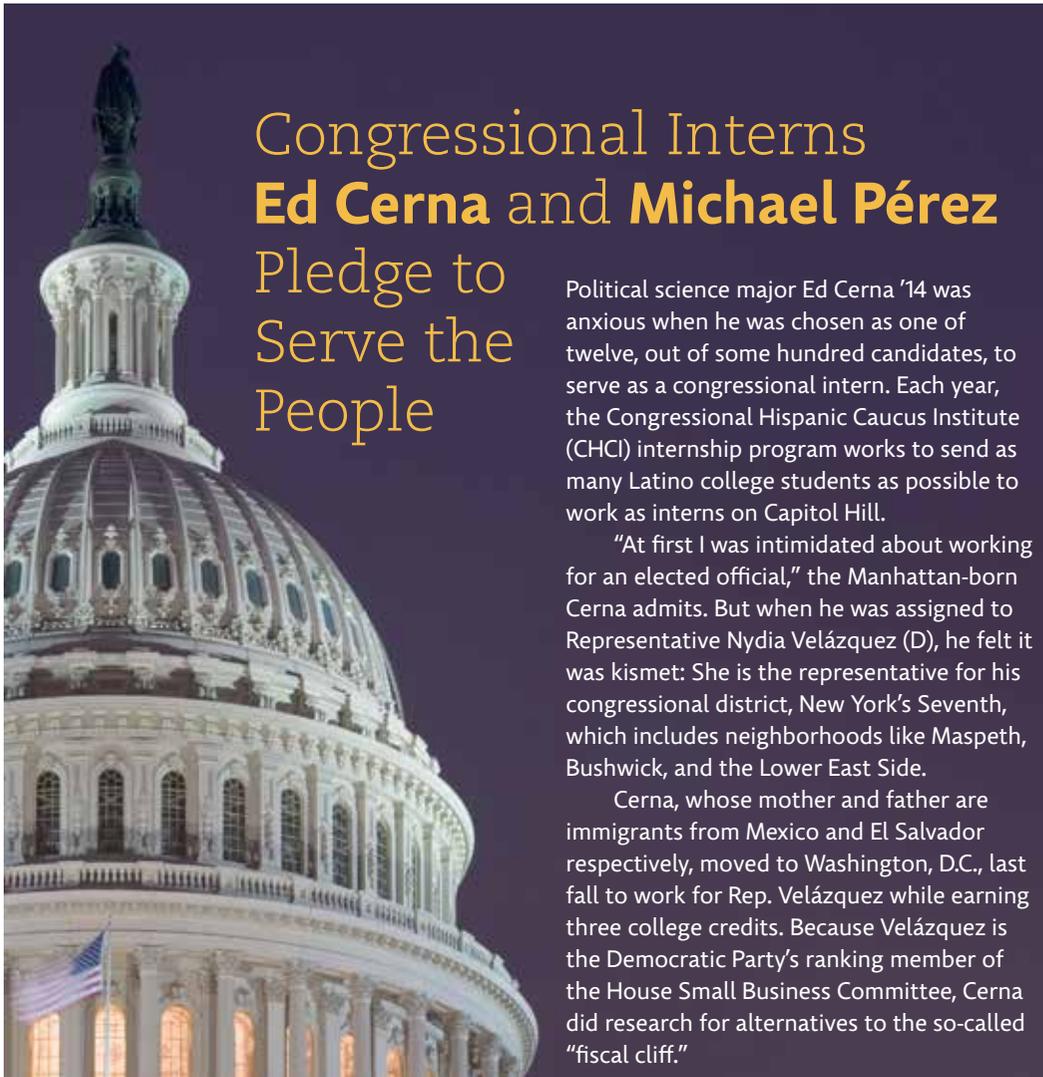
"The stories made us talk about pieces of our lives, and I think many of us came to understand each other better," she says.

"For those who participated, we saw how parallel our lives have been," adds Peters. "Many of us came to New York, struggled to assimilate, struggled to find work, and ended up here because it's why most of us came to this country: to get an education. It's a strong tie that binds us all."

Harris has been doing the road show since 2009. It started in Atlanta and has since made appearances in a handful of states across the country. Harris is an Emmy-nominated television producer who grew up in the Bronx and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He is currently working on a documentary about black photographers called *Through a Lens Darkly: Black Photographers and the Emergence of a People*. —J.S.

**To view the Brooklyn College album or for more information about the Digital Diaspora Family Reunion, please visit [www.ddfr.tv](http://www.ddfr.tv).**





# Congressional Interns Ed Cerna and Michael Pérez Pledge to Serve the People

Political science major Ed Cerna '14 was anxious when he was chosen as one of twelve, out of some hundred candidates, to serve as a congressional intern. Each year, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) internship program works to send as many Latino college students as possible to work as interns on Capitol Hill.

"At first I was intimidated about working for an elected official," the Manhattan-born Cerna admits. But when he was assigned to Representative Nydia Velázquez (D), he felt it was kismet: She is the representative for his congressional district, New York's Seventh, which includes neighborhoods like Maspeth, Bushwick, and the Lower East Side.

Cerna, whose mother and father are immigrants from Mexico and El Salvador respectively, moved to Washington, D.C., last fall to work for Rep. Velázquez while earning three college credits. Because Velázquez is the Democratic Party's ranking member of the House Small Business Committee, Cerna did research for alternatives to the so-called "fiscal cliff."

"I had to do some research about how the cuts would affect small businesses, since ten percent of the defense budget is allocated to small businesses that provide uniforms and food [for the U.S. military]," says Cerna. "So, I got to see the connection between the big policy issues and day-to-day people."

Cerna's internship ended last November, but he is determined to get even more involved in politics by the time he graduates. "After seeing up close how hard politicians work, and after hearing constituents be so thankful—to the point that they give you the impression that you changed their lives—I'm going to be looking into fellowships in public policy for my graduate studies," says Cerna, adding that he is seeking a career in which he can have an impact on programs that will reduce poverty and make education accessible and affordable.

"In a sense, I'd be paying back and making sure that others have the same opportunities I had," he says. "If it weren't for the Pell Grant and some of the policies decided in Congress, I wouldn't be here today. I need to serve my country."

Macaulay Honors student and sophomore Michael Pérez, Brooklyn College's most recent CHCI intern, is working with

Representative Mario Díaz-Balart (R) of Florida's Twenty-fifth Congressional District.

Before heading out to Washington, D.C., for his internship at the beginning of this semester, Pérez was working toward his bachelor's degree through the City University of New York Baccalaureate for Unique and Interdisciplinary Studies program, which provides students with a flexible, academically challenging way to earn their degrees, while giving them a major share of the responsibility for the content of those degrees. Pérez is focused on what he calls "critical bilingualism," the pedagogy of language, and how English as a second language is taught. At the same time, Pérez worked as a cook for Eataly, the giant restaurant and food conglomerate in Manhattan's Flatiron building that is partly owned by chef Mario Batali.

"I learned how to cook the hard way—on the job," Pérez explains, adding that he was working close to sixty hours a week while studying. "In fact, you can say that when I graduate, I will have two careers that will help me travel around the world."

A native New Yorker raised in Florida, England, and Puerto Rico, Pérez is combining linguistics, educational politics, anthropology, and other social sciences to help him "gain an understanding of the linguistic realities of the immigrant experience and the impediments placed upon it by inadequate education."

"There's a lot of hysteria about immigration and Congressman Díaz-Balart is one of the biggest proponents of a sensible reform," adds Pérez. "Working with Díaz-Balart's press secretary has been a great educational experience in how to deal with these issues."

Following his CHCI internship, Pérez will attend the National Autonomous University of Mexico as an exchange student in the fall. He will be taking twenty credits in the Department of Bilingual Studies. He is very excited about being immersed in a Hispanic community outside the United States and gaining exposure to the incredible variety of Mexican food. When he returns to the Brooklyn College campus for the Spring 2014 semester, he hopes to be well on his way to becoming an expert in linguistics, and with luck, a more seasoned cook. —E.M.



CHCI interns Cerna and Pérez



## VITO ACCONCI NAMED 2012 DESIGNER OF THE YEAR AT DESIGN MIAMI

**D**istinguished Lecturer Vito Acconci of the Brooklyn College Art Department was named 2012 Designer of the Year at Design Miami's annual December fair.

"I was very surprised to receive the award," says Acconci, who joined the faculty in 2005. "I don't consider what we do as art, as in something to be seen," he adds, explaining that his studio's work is a collective effort of the architects and designers who are part of it. "We create spaces that people can use and be a part of."

Born in the Bronx, Acconci began his professional life as a poet in the 1960s, transformed himself into a performance artist in the 1970s, and gradually remolded himself into a designer and architect in the late 1980s, when he opened Acconci Studio in Brooklyn.

"Acconci is a renowned maverick, a bona fide star, whose brilliant constructions and advanced morphing of spatial and functional categories have made him a unique and legendary figure in contemporary culture," says Archie Rand, Presidential Professor of Art. "Acconci's sometimes playful and exquisitely composed works enhance public locations and institutions throughout the world."

Founded in 2005, Design Miami is an international forum that holds biannual fairs in Miami Beach in December, and in Basel, Switzerland, in June.

Each fair offers wide access to galleries, designers, artists, curators, and critics from around the globe, as well as museum-quality exhibits, and panels and lectures with top designers, artists, and architects.

As part of Acconci's Designer of the Year award, his studio received a commission from the Miami Design District for a permanent playground to be installed in the area in 2014. *The Klein-Bottle Playground* will consist of a series of tubes jutting from a central sphere, through which children can climb.

Founded in 1988, Acconci's design studio specializes in landscape design and architecture. His projects are typically dedicated to time, movement, and everyday living. They include *Open-Book Store*, Armory Art Fair, New York, New York (2007); *Wave-a-Wall*, West 8th Street subway station, Brooklyn, New York (2006); *Roof Like a Liquid Flung Over the Plaza*, Performing Arts Center, Memphis, Tennessee (2004); and *Mur Island* (floating café, theater, and playground), Graz, Austria (2003).

Acconci is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including honorary doctorates of fine arts from Detroit College of Creative Studies (2009); New School University (2008); and Pratt Institute (2002). He has also received National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships (1984 and 1980) and a Guggenheim Fellowship (1979). —R.S.



**Acconci creations: Coney Island, Brooklyn, subway station installation *Wave-a-Wall* (2006); and (inset) *Mur Island* (2003) in Graz, Austria.**



## GLARE Faculty Featured at **ANNUAL SHEPARD SYMPOSIUM**

**A** group of School of Education faculty members, known collectively as GLARE, were selected as featured presenters at the seventeenth annual Shepard Symposium on Social Justice, which was held in Laramie, Wyoming, April 3-6.

"This is an internationally recognized conference, so it was a privilege to be asked," says Wayne Reed, an assistant professor in the Department of Childhood, Bilingual, and Special Education. "We are honored and excited, and of course thinking about the connection to Matthew Shepard and what he symbolizes in the struggle for queer equality."

Shepard was a gay student at the University of Wyoming, where the conference is held, who was murdered by two other men in what was determined to be a hate crime. The conference has evolved into a major national symposium on social inequality.

GLARE (GLBTQ Advocacy in Research and Education) was founded in 2005 by Reed and Flo Rubinson, chair of the Department of School Psychology, Counseling, and Leadership. The group is comprised of twelve active members, including School of Education faculty María Scharrón-del Río, Paul McCabe, Eliza Dragowski, and Herman Jiesamfoek, who delivered presentations with Reed and Rubinson at the conference. The group aims to prepare the college's K-12 teachers to be inclusive of sexual diversity in their classrooms.

Reed says the Brooklyn College group was tapped to talk at the conference after a University of Wyoming staffer heard them speak at a Connecticut conference about their efforts to raise the consciousness of high school and college students around gay issues by using theater and strategies in affective education.

The GLARE crew visited with local public school officials while in Wyoming, and also participated in a panel on the different civil rights movements in the United States—women's rights, African-American rights, gay rights—and the differences and similarities among them.

"It gave us an even deeper commitment to what we are doing at the college, and made us think about the real impact of Matthew Shepard's death, and the significance of the struggle for LGBTQ equality," says Reed.

GLARE largely focused its efforts within the School of Education for the first several years of its existence, however the group decided in the past year to branch out to campuswide efforts. A 2010 college survey found that nine percent of Brooklyn College students identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer, while almost forty percent of those students say they are rarely or never open about their sexuality on campus.

GLARE has recently launched a campaign to make Brooklyn College an "out-and-proud" campus by 2015. —J.S.

### "War! What is it Good For?"

## **DEAN PHILLIPS ON HER LATEST BOOK**

**Kimberley L. Phillips**, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, has dedicated her career to researching the history of the African-American experience. Her most recent book, *War! What is it Good For? Black Freedom Struggles and the U.S. Military from World War II to Iraq* (University of North Carolina Press, 2012), explores the campaign for "the right to fight" among African Americans, which forced President Harry Truman to issue his 1948 executive order for equality in the armed forces.

The impetus for the book, Phillips explains, was the dawning knowledge that many black men "were pressed to go into combat units because they either got into trouble, or they would get more money than they were currently making." In other words, they weren't all the most enthusiastic volunteers.

All of this got Phillips thinking about black Americans' campaign for "the right to fight," and how that played into their struggles for freedom at home. She wanted to examine some tough questions, like, "How do we explain that since the beginning of the twentieth century, African Americans have been disproportionately represented in the military and the anti-war narrative at the same time?"

She took a long look at how the black political experience was represented in popular culture, deconstructing in the book songs like Jimi Hendrix's "Machine Gun" and Evan Star's "War."

"I had to blast that song," she says of Star's popular song, "so I could really hear it and listen to the pride and the dignity. I wanted to grasp that in this project."

The project took her to archives at Syracuse, Yale, and Harvard universities, among others. Phillips also talked to a lot of people who served in the military, including her father.

The book helped, in some small part, for her to reconcile a piece of her own childhood. In 1966, her father, an officer in the 173rd Airborne Brigade, was off to California from Fort Benning, Georgia, and ultimately to Vietnam. Yet in many places across the country, the family could not sleep, stop, or have a meal. "I understood the irony on some level, but what I lacked at the time was the language to talk about it," Phillips explains. "This book provided me that." —J.S.



Three English Department faculty members have been selected from nearly 3,000 applicants for the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship. Emeritus Professor Louis S. Asekoff and Associate Professor Ben Lerner received awards in the poetry category, while playwright and Lecturer Erin Courtney '03 M.F.A. received an award in the drama and performance art category.

"This is a well-deserved honor for our talented faculty and underscores the high level of scholarship and dedication to craft that they bring to this institution," says President Karen L. Gould.

Lerner and Courtney currently teach in the M.F.A. in Creative Writing Program, which was ranked fifteenth in the nation by *Poets & Writers* magazine in 2011 and boasts such award-winning alumni as Young Jean Lee '06, Sapphire '97, and Helen Phillips '07.

"I am pleased to see that the Guggenheim has awarded fellowships, not only to a ghostly Brooklyn emeritus, but also to two younger, living Brooklyn College writers," says Asekoff, who last year was named a Witter Bynner Fellow of the Library of Congress.

Asekoff was a member of the Brooklyn College faculty for forty-two years and has also served as a coordinator of the poetry division of the M.F.A. in Creative Writing Program. He is the author of four books of poetry: *Dreams of a Work* (1994), *North Star* (1997), *The Gate of Horn* (2010), and the verse-novella *Freedom Hill* (2011). His poems have appeared in such magazines as *The New Yorker*, *American Poetry Review*, and *Ninth Letter*, and he has received awards from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Fund for Poetry. Now a Clermont, New York, resident, Asekoff is currently working on *Clermont*, a book of poems

and prose poems culled from his journals, and a book-length poem, *The Vanishing Hand*.

Ben Lerner, a Topeka, Kansas, native earned a B.A. in political science and an M.F.A. in creative writing from Brown University. A former Howard Foundation Fellow, he is the author of three books of poetry: *The Lichtenberg Figures* (2004), *Angle of Yaw* (2006), and *Mean Free Path* (2010).

In 2011 Lerner released his first novel, *Leaving the Atocha Station*, which has won The Believer Book Award. That same year, he became the first American to win the Preis der Stadt Münster für International Poesie for the German translation of *The Lichtenberg Figures*. Most recently, the Jewish Book Council awarded Lerner \$25,000 as the runner-up for the Sammy Rohr Prize.

"It is a particular honor to receive the Guggenheim this year, along with two of my colleagues," says Lerner. "I feel lucky to be in such company."

Courtney's play, *A Map of Virtue*, produced by 13P and directed by Ken Rus Schmoll, was awarded an Obie and described as "one of the most terrifying plays of the past decade" by *The New York Times*. Her other plays include *Honey Drop*, *Black Cat Lost*, *Alice the Magnet*, *Quiver and Twitch*, and *Demon Baby*. She has collaborated with Elizabeth Swados on the opera *Kasper Hauser* and is starting work on a new musical with Swados on the life of the nineteenth-century Swiss explorer and writer Isabelle Eberhardt.

"Being a part of the Brooklyn College M.F.A. community has been pivotal to my development as a writer," says Courtney. "The critical thinking, the innovative writing, and the support this M.F.A. program provides are like no other in the country."

Brooklyn College faculty members, including past President Robert Lee Hess, have garnered more than

fifteen Guggenheim awards. Established in 1925 by former U.S. Senator Simon Guggenheim and his wife, the award seeks to provide fellows with blocks of time in which they can work with as much creative freedom as possible. — E.M.

## Three English Department Faculty Members Win Prestigious GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIPS



John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship winners (from left) Associate Professor Ben Lerner, Lecturer Erin Courtney '03 M.F.A., and Emeritus Professor Louis S. Asekoff.

## A Famous Life Remembered and Rediscovered



Jeanne Theoharis was surprised to learn that Rosa Parks' work as a civil rights activist extended far beyond that fateful day in 1955 when she refused to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus. But when Parks died nearly seven years ago, Theoharis did some digging and discovered that there was much more to Parks' story.

Forced to leave Montgomery in 1957 because of death threats and the inability to find work after the bus boycott,

Parks spent the second half of her political life in Detroit battling northern racism. And yet, in all the public tributes to Parks, there was little mention of this half century of activism.

"She is one of the most famous women of the twenty-first century and there was no scholarly biography," says Theoharis, a professor in the Department of Political Science, who has penned several books and articles on the civil rights and black power movements. She says the reason is threefold. "Because Parks was so

famous, many of us assume we know everything about her. Also, a lot of people with progressive or radical politics tend to be in your face; Parks didn't have that kind of personality."

But Theoharis wasn't deterred. She pored over old newspapers, magazines, and the archives of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and other civil rights organizations. She also interviewed family members and those who worked with Parks.

Her research eventually turned into *The Rebellious Life of Mrs. Rosa Parks* (Beacon, 2013), a revealing book about a life that was devoted to helping end segregation and injustice way before that day on the Montgomery bus. The book, which has received much critical acclaim, chronicles Parks' life after the boycott, when she moved to Detroit with her husband and eventually found work with a young Rep. John Conyers, who had recently been elected to the U.S. Congress. The civil rights icon later worked the picket lines and was a featured rally speaker with the anti-Vietnam and anti-apartheid movements.

If history told a more complete story, Theoharis thinks Parks would be much more relatable, and useful, to young people. "The real substance of her politics, provides a deep challenge to us in terms of what individual courage looks like," she says. "And it becomes much easier to see how we work for social change today." —J.S.

## RESEARCH AND DISCOVERY

Over the past year, our faculty have received over \$7.5 million in funding for new and ongoing research in such areas as literacy, nutrition, and brain function.

Assistant Professor of Secondary Education **Jennifer Adams** received an \$133,051 award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to investigate the impact of formal-informal collaborations on teacher identity development over time.

*The Cause: The Fight for American Liberalism from Franklin Roosevelt to Barack Obama*, a book by **Eric Alterman**, professor in the Department of English, was published by Penguin.

*Ensemble Theatre Making: A Practical Guide* by David Storck and **Rose Bonczek**, assistant professor in the Department of Theater, was published by Routledge Press.

Associate Professor of Physics **Greg Boutis** received an award totaling \$274,750 from the National Institute of Health (NIH) to investigate the effects of mode of birth on elastin degradation.

Associate Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology **Jillian Cavanaugh** received \$120,736 from the NSF to conduct research exploring how the production of and demand for locally-important, or "heritage" foods, influences cultural, political, and economic change.

**Brian Gibney**, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry, was awarded \$104,916, the final year's funding for a four-year project, by the NIH. Professor Gibney's research aims to improve the rational design of artificial zinc finger protein transcription factor therapeutics. The results of the study can lead to a greater understanding of general metalloregulatory processes, specifically gene activation in human cancer, and improved prediction of the process of cancer gene activation.

Professor of Psychology **Louise Hainline** was awarded \$22,106 by the Research Foundation of Stony Brook University to coordinate the recruitment of teaching mentors. The mentors will work with scholars at Brooklyn College who have received the Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Award. The award is part of a NIH program, which aims to develop a diverse group of highly trained biomedical and behavioral scientists.

**Amy E. Hughes**, assistant professor in the Department of Theater, published *Spectacles of Reform: Theater and Activism in Nineteenth-Century America* with the University of Michigan Press.

**Paula Massood**, chair of the Department of Film, has published *Making a Promised Land: Harlem in Twentieth-Century Photography and Film* with Rutgers University Press.

Professor of Philosophy **Angelica Nuzzo** has edited a collection of critical essays on Hegel's views concerning the relationship between religion and politics. The book, titled *Hegel on Religion and Politics*, was published by the State University of New York Press.

**Brigid O'Keeffe**, an assistant professor in the Department of History, has recently received the Feliks Gross Endowment Award on behalf of CUNY. The annual award is considered to be the university's most important for junior faculty members. Professor O'Keeffe's first book, *New Soviet Gypsies: Nationality, Performance, and Selfhood in the Early Soviet Union*, published by the University of Toronto Press, will be released this summer.

Distinguished Professor **Ursula Oppens** of the Conservatory of Music performed at a memorial for the composer Elliott Carter at Le Poisson Rouge.

**Simon Parsons**, professor of computer and information science, was awarded \$71,700 this year by the NSF to continue the development of formal argumentation as a framework for helping users make informed decisions about the security of computer systems and the privacy of electronically stored information.

*Here Where the Sunbeams Are Green* (Delacorte Books for Young Readers, 2012), a novel by **Helen Phillips**, an assistant professor in the Department of English, received a glowing review from Henry Stewart of *L Magazine*, who called it "sensitive, absorbing, and beautifully written."

*Apartment 4E*, a feature film written and directed by **Russell Sharman**, associate professor of anthropology and archaeology, was picked up by One Village Entertainment for release.



# ON THE SCENE

A rich network of behind-the-scenes entertainment industry alumni and a new graduate school of cinema in the works are just two of the reasons Brooklyn College has become a go-to destination for the next generation of screen and stage movers and shakers.

By Katti Gray

**A**ngling to satisfy his immigrant parents' dream that he'd someday become a respectable, well-paid physician, Joel Zwick '62 began enrolling in a succession of Brooklyn College courses designed for pre-med and pre-dental students his freshman year.

"Eventually, one of the science professors asked me not to come back," says the Brooklyn native, laughing over the telephone from his southern California home.

To top that, Zwick adds, a friendly, if mocking, classmate posed this challenge: "I betcha if you go to the theater department, they could construct a program where you'd get out with a degree in four years."

An entertainment lover and a ham—by age three, Zwick was impersonating comedic icon Jimmy Durante during his mom's mahjong parties—he heeded his taunting classmate's advice. Though he was unsure back then of precisely where that maneuver his years spent in the theater department helped pave his path toward eventually directing such big-screen blockbusters as *My Big, Fat Greek Wedding*



Stage, screen, and film director Joel Zwick '62

and long-running TV sitcoms like *Full House*, *Laverne & Shirley*, *Bosom Buddies*, and *Perfect Strangers*.

"The Theater Department said, 'Yes, come on in. We will give you this, this, and this,'" says Zwick. "It was a period of time when ... the talent pool there at Brooklyn College—the students and professors—was pretty extraordinary."

Ask any number of acclaimed, behind-the-scenes game changers in television, film, and stage about how Brooklyn College factored into their success, and their replies are equally as enthusiastic as Zwick's.

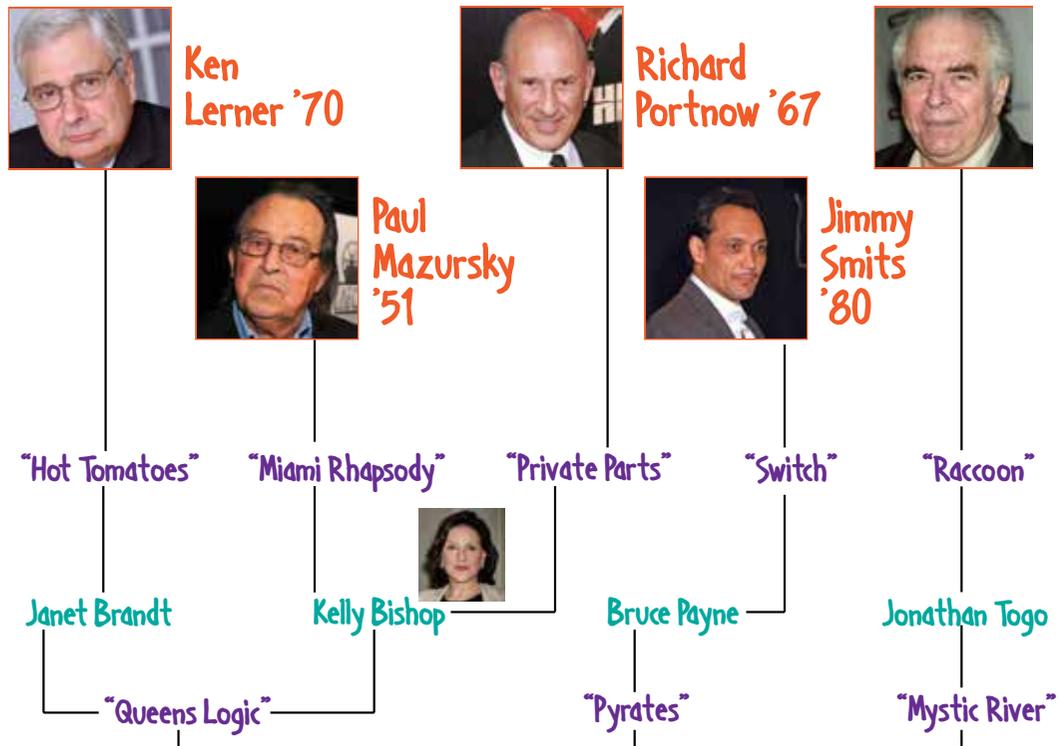
"One of the wonderful things is the alumni network. I've been reaching out to other alums with questions about my industry, questions on how to create the best business partnerships," says Amy Wratchford '06, managing director of the American Shakespeare Center in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

Says Jaynie Saunders Tiller '09, managing director of the Obie Award-winning New Georges theater company, "The level of access—and I mean on every level—to professors who are tops in their fields, and who have these great observations on how organizations work, was unbelievably instructive."

Goddey Asemota '07, director of *NO HOMO*, which premiered at the 2013 New Voices in Black Cinema Festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, says, "Of everyone on the Brooklyn College faculty, Professor [Paula] Massood really touched me. And it's not that she went out of her way for me, because she taught her subject matter to all of us with the same ferociousness and passion. What mattered is that she is the tops in her field, and I was especially receptive to what she taught."

## Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon

Is Kevin Bacon the center of the entertainment universe? A popular parlor game invites you to find the shortest path between any working professional in Hollywood and the actor. Check out a sampling of our alumni who've rubbed shoulders with the celebrated actor.



Kevin Bacon was on campus recently, filming his new series "The Following."

"As a center for the arts," says David Varga '98, a music composer, film and video editor, and winner of multiple Emmys, "Brooklyn College is fantastic. It was one of the first campuses to get 3-D animation. I took an acting class there, film classes. I worked in the TV department where we developed a show that aired on PBS. For somebody coming out of college, being able to put PBS on a resume was pretty big."

New Line Cinema co-founder Michael Lynne '61 was equally impressed by what Brooklyn College offered during his days on campus. "I heard Jack Kerouac read from *On the Road*—I believe—in 1958," says Lynne, whose company birthed such big-screen crowd-pleasers as *Sex and the City* and the Oscar-winning *Lord of the Rings*. "It opened me up to the whole generation of Beat poets and writers. It was a revelation of what literature could be for a new generation just coming of age in the fifties."

Calling Brooklyn College pivotal to his later success at Columbia Law School, Lynne adds, "As an English lit major, and an active participant in the cutting-edge student theater activities at that time, [Brooklyn College] provided the foundation for my career in the entertainment industry."

Indeed, whether classroom instruction or special events, an array of experiences helped shaped the trajectories of graduates from what, today, is the bustling School of Visual, Media, and Performing Arts. The list of notable, behind-the-scenes alumni making their mark offstage, off camera, or off the airwaves is extensive. There's Golden Globe-winning filmmaker and Oscar nominee Letty Konigsberg Aronson '64; Michael Grimes '83, one of the top lighting gaffers of stage and television; Daniel Pane '87, vice president for Technicolor D-Film; costume designer Denise Greber '94; Andrew Flatt '95, marketing vice president at Disney Theatrical Productions; Patrick Willingham '95 M.F.A., executive director of

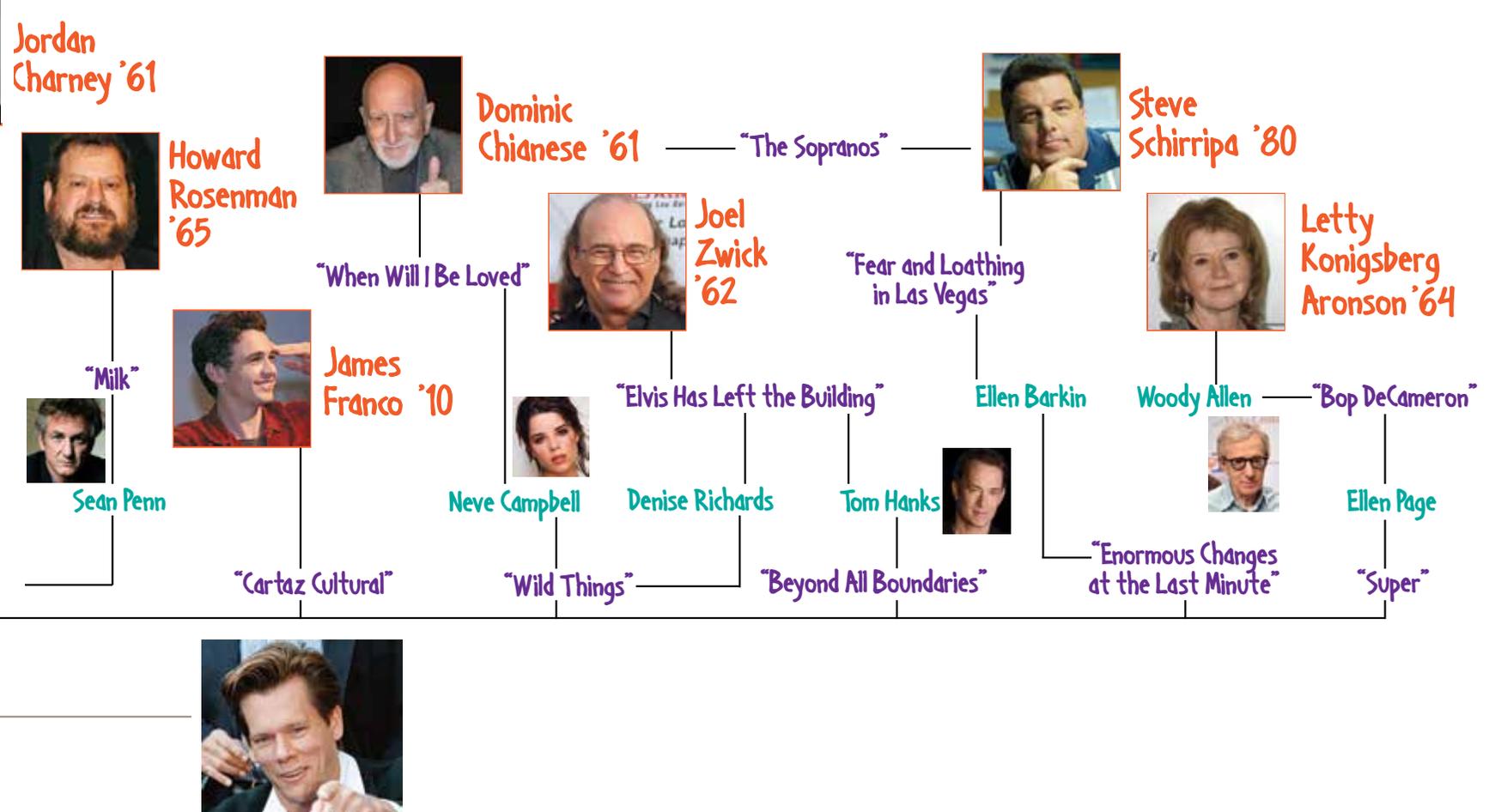
the Public Theater; Paul R. Tetreault '97 M.F.A., executive director, Ford's Theatre; Marlon Soto '01, director of the Dominican Republic's National Film Office; Derrick Guest '01, a Project Enterprise Entrepreneur of the Year and CEO of Griot's Roll Film Production and Services; Emmy and Telly Award-winning Amanda Perez '05, a broadcast news producer-reporter; and producer Michael G. Fox '06, winner of an HBO International Latino Film Festival Best Picture Award.

The nurturing and guidance they received at Brooklyn College has paid off for those celebrated professionals. Likewise, their links to the campus help ramp up the arts programs' cachet. When art history major Maria Ann Conelli '80 returned to her alma mater in 2011 to helm the School of Visual, Media, and Performing Arts, she was fully aware of its past and present stature. That was part of the job's appeal.

"This job combines all the things I love about the arts. And it lets me come in on the ground floor of some very exciting new ventures," says Dean Conelli, previously the Fashion Institute of Technology's dean of graduate studies and FIT's School of Art & Design.

Next fall, her school will open a high-definition television studio. And in Fall 2014, the School of Visual, Media and Performing Arts is slated to move into a sparkling new building that will place the performance, rehearsal, and recording studios and classrooms under one roof. "It will provide our undergrad and graduate students with a state-of-the-art facility in which to learn, and the opportunity to perform in a beautiful new theater," Conelli says. "It truly broadens the scope of what we're doing."

Also opening in Fall 2015 is the pioneering, 69,000-square foot Barry R. Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema, the first such program at a public university in the United States and the first on a





**Jaynie Saunders  
Tiller '09, managing  
director of the Obie  
Award-winning  
New Georges  
theater company in  
New York City.**

commercial film lot, Steiner Studios, the largest film and television production complex outside of Hollywood. That collaboration—as one resounding sign of support, the City of New York pumped \$6.7 million into the upcoming grad school—comes as the borough of Brooklyn heightens its reputation as a go-to destination for world-class entertainment.

“We’ve got a number of other opportunities to build community partnerships in Brooklyn where, right now, there is an amazing amount of energy,” says Conelli, who also sits on the board of directors for the national College Art Association, a prime spot for touting the merits of the programs she leads.

She continues: “In the past, so much involving the arts was happening in Manhattan, and you were competing with all the other schools in there. Now we have a lot of virgin territory, both on and outside our campus, which only increases our capacity to give students every opportunity for the kinds of success they’re looking for.”

Essential to their success is ensuring that students are steeped in both a broad history of their chosen disciplines and have access to the cutting-edge tools of their trade.

David Varga’s Brooklyn College M.F.A. brought him just that. During graduate school, he learned to overlay digital technology on skills in music composition that he’d honed during undergraduate courses taught by, among others, Grammy-nominated, classical composer-conductor Tania León and composer-sound engineer George “Skip” Brunner, founder of Brooklyn College’s International

Electroacoustic Music Festival. For Varga, who earned his B.A. in 1996, the payoff, thus far, includes Emmys for editing such projects as *Inside The Obama White House*, an NBC special, and *Global Warming: What You Need to Know* with Tom Brokaw, that aired on the Discovery Channel.

“There were so many great professors for ear training, for music theory ... for teaching how to do more with technology so I could score music for film and television ... but also do music in different forms of media,” Varga says.

Word of such advances, and of how generally well-rounded the Brooklyn College arts programs were, also helped New Georges’ Jaynie Saunders Tiller whittle down her list of more than twenty-five prospective M.F.A. programs. “I’d done all this research on programs all over the country. At the time, a colleague of mine at the Dallas Theater Center, who’d been in the M.F.A. program at Brooklyn College, recommended that I go there. He raved about it. He says Brooklyn College had a lot of street cred in the theater community, especially on the East Coast.”

Adds Varga, who also makes music for video games, theater, film, and television, “That M.F.A. was certainly one of the more meaningful experiences I’ve had. It was a two-year program and a small group of just ten people working very closely together. I’m still in touch with about half them: a friend in Israel, one in Korea, one in Taiwan, one in Connecticut, and my friend Maury, who’s still in Brooklyn.”

Hollywood producer-director Zwick has his own roll call of former Brooklyn College classmates and confidantes, including actors Dominic Chianese ’61, probably best known for portraying Corrado “Junior” Soprano in HBO’s series *The Sopranos*, the late Herb Edelman, an Army veteran famous for playing a number of quintessentially New York characters, and Michael Lerner.

“I was at Brooklyn College during a period of time when we were getting back into school Korean War veterans, people like Dominic and Herbert,” says Zwick, who began his career as an actor. “And they’re just a couple of the people who made that experience such an incredible one for me.”

That he was able to move from being a thespian to being a theatrical, then film, producer owes largely to connections made and seeds planted back at the college, Zwick says. He is, he added, eternally indebted to the institution because it was his launching



**Amy Wratchford '06, managing director of the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, Virginia.**

pad. Eventually, even his traveling salesman father and insurance company secretary mom figured out that their working-class Brooklyn boy, a kid reared in a one-bedroom apartment, could make his mark in the respectable and, for Zwick, comparatively lucrative worlds of theater and cinema.

"Especially for my mother, there was the initial thought that I was something really oddball. She was really dumbfounded by the whole thing," Zwick says. "But when she got here and saw the world I was part of, she started to understand. And she was pretty amazed by it all."

His own awe about a career that wasn't his parents' first choice for their son keeps him hoping to have some part in helping other aspirants find their way.

"So, I get to Brooklyn College for fundraisers," Zwick says. "The president, Karen Gould, and I have a very nice relationship. We always see each other when she's on the West Coast. I'm heavily involved with the attempt to build [at] Steiner Studios. I'm part of that advisory committee. All of these things are really important to me."

Such dedicated alumni are an invaluable resource. "We should always be ready to do, to mentor, to provide opportunities for interns. We should be ready to discuss the paths that have taken us into our career. We should be ready to support, and not just with our money," Dean Conelli says. "What amazes me is how willing so many alumni are to pick up the phone, to be responsive. That's one of the best parts of all this." **B**




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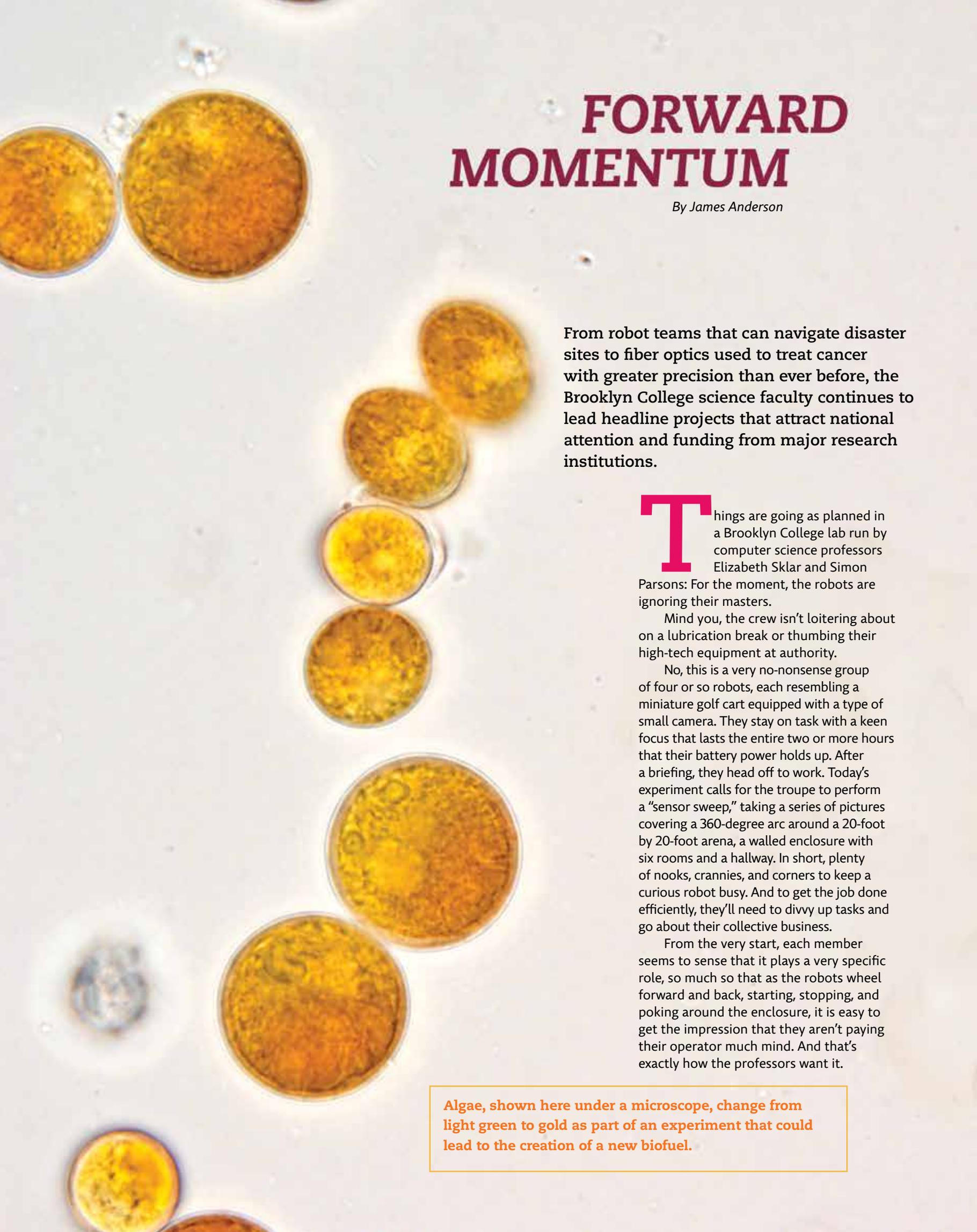
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A series of petri dishes containing algae, arranged in a diagonal line from the top left to the bottom right. The algae in the dishes shows a color gradient from light green to gold. The background is a light, textured surface.

# FORWARD MOMENTUM

By James Anderson

From robot teams that can navigate disaster sites to fiber optics used to treat cancer with greater precision than ever before, the Brooklyn College science faculty continues to lead headline projects that attract national attention and funding from major research institutions.

**T**hings are going as planned in a Brooklyn College lab run by computer science professors Elizabeth Sklar and Simon Parsons: For the moment, the robots are ignoring their masters.

Mind you, the crew isn't loitering about on a lubrication break or thumbing their high-tech equipment at authority.

No, this is a very no-nonsense group of four or so robots, each resembling a miniature golf cart equipped with a type of small camera. They stay on task with a keen focus that lasts the entire two or more hours that their battery power holds up. After a briefing, they head off to work. Today's experiment calls for the troupe to perform a "sensor sweep," taking a series of pictures covering a 360-degree arc around a 20-foot by 20-foot arena, a walled enclosure with six rooms and a hallway. In short, plenty of nooks, crannies, and corners to keep a curious robot busy. And to get the job done efficiently, they'll need to divvy up tasks and go about their collective business.

From the very start, each member seems to sense that it plays a very specific role, so much so that as the robots wheel forward and back, starting, stopping, and poking around the enclosure, it is easy to get the impression that they aren't paying their operator much mind. And that's exactly how the professors want it.

Algae, shown here under a microscope, change from light green to gold as part of an experiment that could lead to the creation of a new biofuel.



Sklar and Parsons are developing a new interface, a way for teams of robots to pick up instructions from a human operator and then perform complex tasks on their own. The technology has a number of real-world applications, including rescue operations that require sifting through a collapsed building in the aftermath of a storm or earthquake, or crisis management in a fire—all dangerous locations where humans don't dare tread. The professors' aim is to get low-cost, mechanized crews working together independently in dangerous spots by dividing the work efficiently among themselves.

The key, or "brains" behind the operation, is a software program that gathers reports from each member of the robot work crew and then helps them conduct a split-second auction to hand out responsibilities. The human operator

communicates with the robots through a graphical interface, in the case of the current exercise, determining the team mission by clicking on locations on a map of the robot's arena. The robots receive a message from the interface containing a list of all of the locations that the human operator indicated. The robot team then uses an auction-based mechanism to decide which robot will perform sensor sweeps and where, in the best and most efficient way. And yes, the robots keep their human operator informed, even as they go about their tasks.

The work the two professors have put in has impressed the National Science Foundation (NSF), an arm of the U.S. government that sponsors research, enough to extend five grants since 2003 totaling approximately \$1.4 million to help fund Sklar's and Parsons' efforts.

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Professors Simon Parsons and Elizabeth Sklar display robots used in their research. Their goal is to create inexpensive, mechanized teams to perform complex tasks on their own—of great value in rescue operations, where sending a human into dangerous locations is not feasible.

Meanwhile, in a greenhouse atop Ingersoll Complex, biology professor Juergen Polle is putting teeming pools of algae through their paces, challenging the organisms' microscopic metabolisms the way a personal trainer might. In larger gallon-sized cultivation containers, the algae undergo changes in exposure to light, nutrients, and saline content, a process called stress biology. Polle's work tracks and measures what happens over time, including the compounds the algae create in reaction to the changes in their regimen. In some cases, the algae start off green, lighten in color, and may even turn a bright orange or brown over the course of days.

Polle's work aims to find new strains of microalgae and then fine-tune the compounds they produce. The effort is focused on some potentially earthshaking uses. Currently, algae are used to generate beta-carotene for vitamins and medicines; Polle's investigations, however, are directed at harnessing them to produce renewable bioenergy that might replace oil or other fossil sources, with such applications as fuel for jet planes and automobiles or plastics. Polle has caught the attention of some major contributors. To date, he has received more than \$2 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Energy and the Air Force Office of Scientific Research.

Sklar's, Polle's and Parsons' work are just two examples of Brooklyn College's

**Brooklyn College's commitment to the sciences isn't just locked behind lab doors either. The school has launched several bold projects to upgrade both classrooms and facilities.**

big push in the sciences. Professors around campus are currently leading a number of headline efforts. Brooklyn College research is winning sizeable grants from U.S. research agencies such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the NSF, even at a time when a sleepwalking economy and fiscal strains have pinched budgets nationwide. Sabrina Cerezo, director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs at Brooklyn College, reports that for fiscal year 2012, the college brought in \$12.5 million in grant funds.

The short list of projects is impressive, too. Chemistry professor Alexander Greer is currently studying ways to use fiber-optics to direct anticancer compounds with the type of pinpoint precision required in surgeries on tumors located in parts of the body such as the brain or other vital organs.

strains has secured \$310,359 to date from the biotech firm Biothera.

Brooklyn College's commitment to the sciences isn't just locked behind lab doors either. The school has launched several bold projects to upgrade classrooms and

programming and design. Approximately ninety-five percent of the floor space in the 280,000-square-foot complex will be dedicated to interactive classrooms and teaching laboratories where faculty and students will have state-of-the-art communications technology at their fingertips. By the end of the Decade of Science more than half a billion dollars will be spent on new facilities and projects.

That's keeping the hardhats pretty busy at work on campus facilities. Currently \$23 million in funding from CUNY is being spent to upgrade research infrastructure in Ingersoll Complex. The project includes six biology labs, which will be equipped with fluorescent and polarizing microscopes, high-tech filters, and incubation and growth chambers, all used to study microorganisms.

A number of Brooklyn College students are in on the action, with undergraduates getting a chance to play important roles in some of the biggest research activities on campus. In Spring 2012, Nicholas Lease '12 was invited to speak at the American Chemistry Society's prestigious National Exposition on a potential breakthrough in cancer research he made as a lab assistant working with chemistry professor Maria Contel. The Agents Lab, run by Sklar and Parsons, meanwhile, has taken on four undergraduate students along with six Ph.D.s and a research assistant for its robotics project, or a total of thirty-two undergraduates since 2009 from seven CUNY campuses. Their student



The project is slated to receive \$388,575 this year from the NIH. Biology professor Peter Lipke's work investigating amyloid proteins and their connection to infections was awarded \$362,002 this year, again by the NIH. Lipke's work in developing yeast

facilities. The cornerstone is the Roosevelt Science Teaching Commons, a \$270 million complex in keeping with CUNY's 2005-15 Decade of Science. A first allocation of \$56 million was approved by the New York State Legislature and will go toward

**Professor Maria Contel manipulates air-sensitive chemicals inside a glove-box in her laboratory in Ingersoll Complex. The research in Contel's group focuses on the synthesis of potential chemotherapeutics and antimicrobial agents based on metallic compounds.**



# Inventive Alumni

assistants have moved on to Ph.D. programs at the CUNY Graduate Center, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and the University of Oregon, while others have gone on to jobs at Goldman Sachs and the Federal Reserve.

Several of Polle's assistants capitalized on their experience in his lab. One was awarded the prestigious Jonas E. Salk Scholarship in 2007. Others have gone on to attend schools such as SUNY Downstate College of Medicine and are now M.D.s.

Still other students have contributed to another breakthrough while working on research alongside Chemistry Professor Mark Kobrak. Kobrak's efforts are directed at replacing lithium with aluminum as a prime component in rechargeable electric batteries. The stakes are high: Aluminum, one of the most common elements on earth, is far more readily available than lithium and therefore cheaper to mine. The problem is that aluminum isn't particularly cooperative. Blame dendrites for that. They are the long, finger-like crystals that form during the chemical reaction that charges batteries. Dendrite formations can short out batteries and even trigger explosions under the wrong conditions. And the very reason why lithium has made headway in the battery industry is because its chemical properties stall dendrites. Conversely, under normal conditions, aluminum's makeup is particularly susceptible to them.

Kobrak's work is theoretical for the most part and involves the investigation of complex formulas coupled with hours of number crunching to map out the flow of ions—and electrical charge—from one substance to another. The professor routinely puts undergraduates to work helping to develop and test theories in connection with his research. In fact, Kobrak says he is more inclined to hand long-shot projects over to undergraduates. "The most important thing for them is to get the experience,



## Milton Schechter '35

Inventor of allathrin, the main ingredient in most household insecticides



## Julius Barnathan '51

Inventor of close captioning television

## Martin Summerfield '36

Inventor of regenerative cooling for liquid rocket engines

## Dr. Andrew Dibner '48

Inventor of the Lifeline system for homebound patients and the elderly



## Wolf V. Vishniac '45

Inventor of the "Wolf Trap," a test to determine life on other planets. The crater Vishniac on Mars is named in his honor.

## Eli Friedman '53

Inventor of the first portable dialysis machine



## Richard LaMotta '69

Inventor and principal promoter of the Chipwich ice cream sandwich

## Benjamin Eisenstadt '54

Developer of Sweet 'N Low

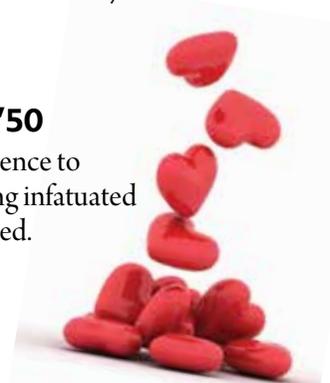


## Lawrence Landweber '63

Primary developer of CSNET and founding member and President of the Internet Society

## Dorothy Tennov '50

Coined the term limerence to describe a stage of being infatuated or romantically obsessed.



## Alfred Alberts '53

Discoverer of the first commercial statin drugs lovastatin (Mevacor) and simvastatin (Zocor)

## David F. Mintz '76

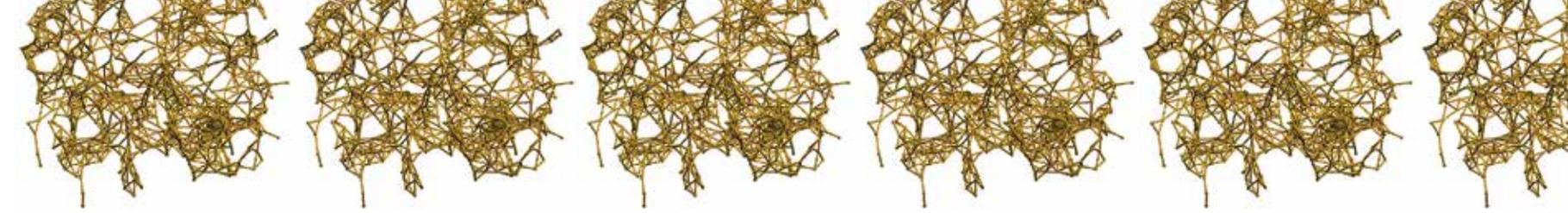
Founder of Tofutti brands, famous for their soy-based products



## Max Cohen '55

Inventor of Brownulated Sugar, a unique pourable brown sugar





**Dendrite crystals like these can short out batteries and even trigger explosions under certain conditions. Research at the School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences is focused on creating a cheaper, aluminum-based battery similar to those made of lithium, an element whose chemical properties stall dendrite growth.**

so a negative result is not really a setback for their careers,” says the professor. “If they do a good job seeing the project through, I can write them a strong letter of recommendation and help them with applications for graduate school.”

Case in point is the mission Kobrak set Brooklyn College student assistant Nathan Sandalow off to investigate a few years ago, a project that actually ended up making rather large waves in the field of study. At the time Kobrak was looking at how ions move in liquids, an important question in battery design. He had Sandalow investigate previous studies in the area. After combing through prior work, the two developed a mathematical basis for a new idea called a liquid’s “charge arm,” a calculation that could predict the viscosity of a liquid along with other properties that would reveal how well it would work in a battery. Kobrak and Sandalow published a paper together. Over time, the professor has pursued the same study to publish four more articles with other undergraduate and graduate students. “I was recently at a conference, and the ideas we generated were echoed in several of the discussions,” the professor says. “The work was a breakthrough in that it changed the way these systems are discussed, even if the approach hasn’t yet answered every question about the area.”

To say the last five years have been an interesting time for research funding for campuses around the country is an understatement. One reason: In the aftermath of the 2008 global financial

meltdown, federal and private funders in addition to state and local governments have all tightened their belts. That trend was well in evidence before the federal budget sequestration took effect earlier this year, and mandatory budget cuts that are going into effect now could have a deep impact on funding going forward. At the same time, there’s also been a marked change in attitude on the part of big U.S. government grant sponsors—the NIH and the NSF. Both organizations are putting more scrutiny on results and practical applications than ever before. “In recent years, most federal agencies have underscored accountability,” says Brooklyn College Provost and Professor of Biology William Tramontano. “They’re keen to speed up the interval between discovery and implementation and to define outcomes and the impact of what goes on in the labs. They want to see that projects aren’t done

in a vacuum and isolated to an individual faculty member or a small group.”

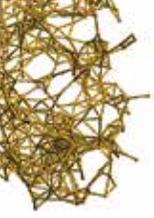
Brooklyn College professors are staying ahead of the curve—and the constraints—by keeping in step with current trends and hot-button efforts in their fields of study. Sustainability and renewable energy research are two examples. At the same time Brooklyn researchers have been at the ready to seize opportunities that spring directly from the headlines.

Take Hurricane Sandy, for instance. Cerezo says that local governments are keener than ever to turn scientific attention to coastlines and the vulnerabilities that were exposed as a result of the recent storm. Earth and environmental sciences professor Brett F. Branco is one Brooklyn educator who has risen to the occasion. Branco is currently directing a number of studies to better understand the waters and wetlands around New York, including

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**Associate Professor Brett F. Branco and Annesia Lamb, a Ph.D. candidate in earth and environmental sciences, examine *Ulva*, a type of seaweed found in New York’s Jamaica Bay. This and other seaweeds are being studied for their possible negative impact on the biodiversity of the bay.**





the marine life and tidal patterns in nearby Jamaica Bay.

Simultaneously, there's an acknowledgement within the Brooklyn College science faculty that now, more than ever, it's important to create bridges between research and the communities that surround the college. It's there, says Tramontano, where sociologists like Professor Tammy Lewis come into play. "It's one thing to discover how recycling can save energy and impact the environment and communities," says Tramontano. "It's another thing to get people to understand that and do their part by sorting garbage out on the curb. That's why scientists like us rely on sociologists to help people take advantage of our breakthroughs."

Lewis was involved in two projects to help accomplish that. She was part of a cross-disciplinary team that put together a new Environmental Studies Program, one that brought together professors in economics, environmental sciences, and sociology under one roof. The group has created a new major, the Program in Urban Sustainability, which focuses on a number of very timely issues, including the way urban sustainability impacts the local environment for Brooklynites and New Yorkers alike.

Another of Lewis' current projects is the creation of "pod walks" or audio files that can be downloaded onto an MP3 player or phone. Lewis has sent her students out to a number of Brooklyn field sites and to the library to research neighborhoods around the Gowanus Canal, Brooklyn Bridge Park, and Brooklyn College to gather information about sustainability from a number of perspectives. They take notes on everything from social and natural history and geology, to local industries and real estate markets.

Once the investigations are completed, Lewis helps students compose narratives to accompany a walking tour that is drawn up and linked to several key sites in each location. The podcasts can be downloaded from the Brooklyn College website. The Gowanus podcast, for instance, examines the neighborhood's designation as a Superfund site by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2010, the gentrification of the neighborhoods immediately around the canal, and the decline of local small manufacturing industries. "It's incredible to see the amount of change that has taken place in such a short time," Lewis says. "The turnover in local real estate has been incredibly rapid—artists have moved in, and a Whole Foods is going up at the same time. We're taking a look at the environmental

impact of ongoing change." Recently the Associate Provost of Academic Programs' office purchased handheld recorders for the environmental studies program to continue with their documentation of the Brooklyn urban landscape.

For all the momentum Brooklyn College has gathered over the past few years, there are major challenges ahead. Perhaps the biggest of them is sequestration and the direct effect budget cuts will have on research money. Cerezo reports that both the NSF and NIH are cutting back on funding new awards this year.

Another economic slowdown could magnify the impact.

Even so, there's a sense at the college that a community that weathered Hurricane Sandy is quite possibly resilient enough to find ways to keep up the good work. Tramontano says that it's very exciting to be at a crossroads where research, education, and the efforts of faculty across disciplines are coming together. "I'm very proud of our efforts, and I have to say that for all the research we perform, it's often humbling to see how a number of people come together to bring about meaningful change both here, across the country, and around the world," he adds. **B**

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**Students from the new Program in Urban Sustainability test pod walks, audio tours of neighborhoods around Gowanus Canal, Brooklyn Bridge Park, and Brooklyn College that focus on how sustainability affects the local environment. Photo by Professor Kenneth A. Gould.**

# The BROOKLYN Connection

by Matt Fleischer-Black



As the School of Business continues to grow, alumni mentors with top-shelf careers are giving back by providing students with vital links to the working world, as well as forming professional and personal bonds that last well past graduation.



Alumni mentors with their mentees. At top, Autumn Fiore '12 with Hope Goldstein '88, a partner at Marks, Paneth & Shron. Far left, Elliot Tannenbaum '73, a former partner at Morgan Stanley and Ernst & Young, with Michael Chernyak '15. Left, mentee Vyacheslav Kuzmin '13

**A**s a busy accountant, Hope Goldstein '88 juggles a wide variety of assignments for the clients of her large firm. She volunteers for charity boards and serves on internal committees for Marks, Paneth & Shron, a firm of 550 employees based in Manhattan. She contributes to industry newsletters and donates time to accounting organizations. During the summer of 2012, a Brooklyn College staff member contacted her about a more personal task. Would she discuss her field with an accounting student at the college?

Yes, Goldstein said, she would meet Autumn Fiore '12. Fiore had sent a mentor request form to that same staff member, Natalia Guerin-Klein, an associate director at the Magner Career Center. All year, Guerin-Klein had sent messages inviting students to request a mentor. Fiore, working toward a dual B.S. in accounting and business finance and management, was interning for a company in Manhattan, working with its sole accountant. Fiore's request to the Magner Center gave details of what she hoped for in a match. "I said, a woman in a midsize to large firm, in a high position, maybe a manager," recalls Fiore.

The two women met up in Goldstein's office one morning in August. Fiore had a desire common to many of the 1,000 students who major in accounting annually—to work at a Big Four accounting firm.

With entirely different perspectives on an accounting career, the two women, a seasoned accountant and an aspiring one, had scheduled a thirty-minute discussion. "I was just there to answer questions—and two-and-a-half hours later, it was 'Autumn, look at the time!'" Goldstein said goodbye, unsure how much she had helped Fiore, who already seemed savvy and dedicated. "I didn't see how my advice was going to change the qualities of this young woman. She was good, she had her head on straight," says Goldstein, who spent seventeen years at the international accounting firm Deloitte & Touche.

Fiore left inspired. "We had a great conversation, she was awesome. I really am thankful. It felt comfortable right away," recalls Fiore, who graduated in December. "She grew up in Brooklyn as well, so it's encouraging and inspiring to see someone who went to the same school as you, and someone who comes from similar circumstances, to be in a high position in a great firm." Fiore adds that she reminds friends that an important advantage of Brooklyn College is the access to mentors with top-shelf careers.

Meeting with Fiore was Hope Goldstein's first Brooklyn College activity since graduating. "Not for any lack of desire," she says, "it's just because—somebody reached out to me."

Mentoring appealed to Elliot Tannenbaum '73, a retired partner at Morgan Stanley and Ernst & Young. "I decided early on that I would focus on working with people who needed help, rather than being on boards and fundraising. That's important, but to me, it's even more important to reach people who hopefully would be the beneficiaries of the efforts," he says. He also serves on the Planned Giving Committee of the Brooklyn College Foundation.

For alumni, mentoring is a way to give back to the college that is direct and can have immediate, visible results. The student, meanwhile, receives a helping hand, a gift of support during an emotionally demanding moment when the stakes feel very high, and anxieties can chip away at one's sense of identity and accomplishment.

## The Path to Accreditation

Brooklyn College formed its School of Business in 2011, gathering together the accounting, economics, and finance departments. These departments serve the most students in the college, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

"A portion of the student body are in the business school. They see it as a way forward to success," says Andrew Sillen, executive director of the Brooklyn College Foundation and vice president for Institutional Advancement. Business majors report considerably lower household income than other students, yet earn more after college.

Under the leadership of Willie Hopkins, dean since 2011, the business school has begun a behind-the-scenes reorganization. Over the next six years, the school plans to take all necessary steps to become the first accredited business school in Brooklyn—the first to serve the 2.8 million people who live in the borough. Brooklyn is the only top twenty large county in the United States without an accredited business school. That should bring Brooklyn College further into the mainstream of New York's vibrant, globally recognized business community.

Dean Hopkins hopes that accreditation, which is granted by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, will yield a series of linked benefits. It will raise the school's credibility, attracting more resources and higher-profile hirings. That, in turn, will help the school strengthen and deepen its educational program, giving students a competitive boost in the job market.

To qualify for accreditation, Dean Hopkins says that the business school will need to upgrade its staffing (more faculty with appropriate Ph.D.s.), its organizational management (more precise goal-setting and assessment), and its educational program (expanded course offerings, with clearer learning goals for students). The school also will need to improve facilities. Some improvements arrive this fall. Bloomberg Terminals, an important business tool, have been ordered for students' use. Four new professors and a new associate dean are set to start in August.

Hopkins and Sillen estimate that making all of the planned improvements will take six years, until 2020. The Brooklyn College Foundation assembled a panel of seven business-world alumni (and one non-alum) to serve on a one-year, blue-ribbon commission to review with the dean and college officials the accreditation plans and the budget. The members, says Sillen, view an accredited business school as a crucial addition to Brooklyn College and the whole of New York. In the members' initial meetings, says Sillen, "they were extremely enthusiastic about finding ways to accelerate the process." —M.F.B.

The college benefits, as well. Alumni teaching students about the dynamics of the working world and their fields is an important anchor for the School of Business as it, too, tries to navigate an arduous passage into a new realm as an accredited business school. "Our students need to be competitive enough to get internships and jobs after graduating," says School of Business Dean Willie Hopkins.

For alumni, mentoring need not take much time. To help is no harder than listening and responding. Tannenbaum this winter gave feedback to Michael Chernyak '15, an accounting major, as he prepared to interview for a three-day emerging leaders program at Ernst & Young. Recalls Chernyak, "He gave me a couple speaking points, told me how to conduct myself during the interview. He told me different parts of my resume I should highlight." Chernyak also appreciated hearing about specific work groups at the company. "Turns out that Michael has expended a significant number of years working with a hockey club or center," says Tannenbaum. "He did a lot of things over there, including supervising other employees, coaching children from the ages of three to eighteen, being the guy in charge of inventory, doing some repair work. When you looked at this, it was someone who has leadership skills, a self-starter, was analytical in the way he approached things. I said, 'That's what you need to bring out, that in fact what's on paper is who you are.'" In April Ernst & Young offered Chernyak a place in the program.

Like Tannenbaum, Michael Kosik '82 has spoken to several students over the past four years about starting a career. Often, hearing their anxiety, Kosik reminds them that a first job is unlikely to be lifelong. He shares his experience right after receiving his economics degree. "I took the first job that I was offered on Wall Street, and then found myself, found out eventually what I did and didn't like after seven or eight years. Then I made the jump." Today

he is a vice president at The Kosik Goldin Group at Morgan Stanley in Shrewsbury, New Jersey, a wealth management and financial advising practice.

Students at Brooklyn College are often trying to balance many hours of work and studies each week. That leaves little time to explore career resources. Sherley Lamarre '06 is a group trainer in the human resources department at Target Corp., and has helped a pair of students from the college. "I remember when I was a junior or senior in Brooklyn College, I just wanted to exhaust every possible resource to help me with my career planning," Lamarre says. "One of the things that motivates me, not just at work, but in my community, in my church, is that I'm around a lot of young adults who don't exhaust those resources and take advantage of those things."

Mentoring occasionally leads to a job. Autumn Fiore didn't end up with her hoped-for Big Four opportunities. So at the start of the fall semester, she says, "I reached out to Hope again, and let her know that I was interested in midsize firms, and perhaps even her firm." After interviews, Marks, Paneth & Shron offered Fiore a job. She works there now. "She is in contact with many of her friends who have been at large firms, the Big Four," says Goldstein. "She said that they're doing tasks like photocopying, and I am learning so much over the last couple months being here."

Alumni who make presentations may end up as mentors. When still a student, Vadim Levkovskiy '10 had worked at the Bay Parkway branch of HSBC. After he received dual bachelor's degrees in public accounting and business management and finance, and later an master's in business economics, HSBC chose him for an internal fast-track management program, called the Retail Banking Wealth Management Graduate Development Program. Now twenty-five, Levkovskiy arranged for a presentation in November 2012 about the HSBC program in James Hall.

Vyacheslav Kuzmin '13 attended, despite beckoning homework. "I go to a lot of these events, and this time I was looking at the event, you know what, should I stop by?" recalls Kuzmin, who is studying for a bachelor's in finance. He did, and Kuzmin, who had worked in a bank and sold securities, grew interested. "He followed up the next day. As the program progressed, through the different stages he kept contacting me, letting me know where he is at," says Levkovskiy. "We still talk regularly, we kind of became friends." Kuzmin has been accepted into the program and will start at HSBC this summer.

More mentors from business will be needed, as students with this popular major get savvier about the usefulness of a mentor for navigating a job search. Michael Kosik observes that a mentor helps busy students look outward. "They're having to learn about more of what they want to do with their education. They have to switch gears from test-taking and mastering books to mastering interviews to get in somewhere," he says.

Mentors say they aren't sure who benefits more. "It's so uplifting to speak with them," Tannenbaum says. "They are so enthusiastic and they want to do well, it's refreshing. I guess I was like that forty years ago!" **B**

## TAKE OUR QUIZ

Can you match the Brooklyn College alumni to their successful companies? (Hint: One alum is connected to two big moneymakers.) Answers at bottom.

- |                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Michael Lynne '61  | a. Adobe Systems            |
| 2. Steve Riggio '74   | b. Aegis Pharmaceuticals    |
| 3. Allie Sherman '43  | c. A & M Records            |
| 4. Agnes Varis '50    | d. OTB                      |
| 5. Bruce Chizen '78   | e. Brysam Global Partners   |
| 6. Jerry Moss '57     | f. Deloitte & Touche        |
| 7. Barry Salzberg '74 | g. New Line Cinema          |
| 8. Marge Wagner '69   | h. New York Giants Football |
|                       | i. Barnes & Noble           |

Answers: 1. g, 2. i, 3. d and h, 4. b, 5. a, 6. c, 7. f, 8. e

Are you pictured here?

Let us know!

magazine @ brooklyn.cuny.edu



On November 28, 2012, fifty years to the date when the Student Center officially opened its doors, some 200 students, staff, alumni, and college officials came together to celebrate the landmark anniversary.

"I'm honored to stand before you, as President Gideonse did then, to celebrate our students' tremendous

## Student Center Turns The BIG 5-0

spirit of determination," said Brooklyn College President Karen L. Gould at the event, held in the sixth-floor Gold Room. In the 1950s, students from the School of General Studies (nondegree evening classes) approached the college with the idea of a student center because they and other commuting students had no place other than the school cafeteria, to relax, study, and socialize between classes.

The idea caught on. With support from Thomas Coulton, then dean of academic life, students lobbied the city's Board of Higher Education and the City of New York to request financial support. When the city turned down their request, student associations already active on campus held fundraisers and bake sales, collecting \$100,000, with another \$20,000 contributed by the Faculty Council. With a promise from students to pay a higher activity fee to finance the project after the building was opened, the city's Board of Higher Education chartered the Brooklyn College Student Corporation, and the Federal Housing Authority granted the school a \$1.45 million, forty-year loan through a special program created to construct student union buildings.

When the original four-story structure was opened in 1962, it provided lounges for study, recreation and music rooms, and conference rooms for club activities. According to Student Center Director Miztu Adams '07 M.A., today more than 160 student clubs use the center, which over the years has grown from four stories, to include a fifth floor, plus a penthouse, both of which hold a state-of-the-art conference center.

"Generations of students who come through our doors have engaged in civic activities, volunteering inside and outside the campus," says Adams.

After Hurricane Sandy hit New York City in late October 2012, students held fundraisers, including food- and coat-drives, for victims of the superstorm, and \$1,000 vouchers were offered to students in need, Adams added.

To mark the milestone anniversary, Councilman Jumaane Williams '05 M.A. presented a City Council proclamation honoring those who have kept the center going throughout the years. —E.M.



The Brooklyn College Student Center under construction in 1962 (above). The Center's penthouse, at top, is part of a two-story conference center that is open for use to students, faculty, staff, and the Brooklyn community.

# Spike Lee Talks Race and Performance with Students



**More than 300 Brooklyn College students** filled the Student Center on February 25 to hear noted filmmaker Spike Lee deliver the keynote address for “Conversations on Race and Performance,” a discussion on the legacy of minstrelsy in modern-day television and film. The event was part of a Black History Month program, now in its second year, sponsored by the Department of Africana Studies.

As part of the program, Lee met earlier that day with close to eighty students in Introduction to Production (FILM 1201), taught by Mustapha Khan, an Emmy Award-winning visiting professor in the Department of Film.

During both talks, Lee took questions from students and shared with them his personal experiences in crafting his career as a filmmaker.

“Listening to one of the most famous directors in the world talking about his experiences can only help our education,” said junior Jennifer McQuaile, an Irish native who traveled to the United States to study film at Brooklyn College. “He also reminded us that it is our films, scripts, and our work in general that will get us jobs. Talks like his help us stay on the right path to pursue our dreams.”

“I did not find film. Film found me,” said Lee during his keynote address. “The beauty of a liberal arts education is that you get exposed to many influences, and you can learn something different from each discipline until you find what you love, and then you can do it for the rest of your life.”

Lee, who has directed, produced, written, and acted in dozens of films over the past thirty years, is also a film professor at New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, where he received his master’s in film production. He founded 40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks, based in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn, in 1986.

“The quest for knowledge never stops,” Lee said toward the end of his talk, before accepting a New York City proclamation presented to him by Councilman Jumaane Williams ’05 M.A. “When you find, not what makes you money but what you love, you can spend the rest of your life learning.”

Other panelists for “Conversations on Race and Performance” included Professor of Africana Studies George Cunningham, Assistant Professor of Cinema and Media Studies Racquel Gates of the College of Staten Island, Chair of Film Department Paula Massood, Professor of English Michele Wallace of the City College of New York, and Professor Ray Allen, senior research associate at Brooklyn College’s H. Wiley Hitchcock Institute for Studies in American Music.

In fall of 2015, the Brooklyn College Barry R. Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema will enroll its first cohort of students. The product of a partnership between Brooklyn College and Steiner Studios, the school will be the only one in the country seamlessly integrated into a working film lot. —E.M.



Jerry Moss, at left, with client Herb Alpert.

# LEGENDARY MUSIC PRODUCER JERRY MOSS '57 Visits Campus

Elisa Lovelie '14, lead singer of Elisa Lovelie & the Device, had a very specific reason to hear legendary record producer Jerry Moss '57 discuss his career in the music industry in a forum sponsored by the Wagner Career Center on March 19.

Her second independent release, a CD entitled *Undertow*, was coming out in three days and she wanted advice about the best way to promote her music.

"The key is to keep performing," said Moss. "Develop your audience. Have support groups. Keep at it."

"When should I hire a lawyer?" asked Lovelie, whose real name is Elisa Libraty.

"Right now," the music man said with a smile.

Moss co-founded A&M records with trumpet-player Herb Alpert in 1962, with a mere \$1,000. He went on to sell the company in 1989 for roughly \$500 million (Alpert and Moss later sold their music publishing company, Rondor Music, in 2000, for \$400 million).

Over the years, Moss has recorded hundreds of artists, including Quincy Jones, The Carpenters, Cat Stevens, Cheech & Chong, Styx, Supertramp, Peter Frampton, Janet Jackson, the Police, Barry White, Sheryl Crow, and Sting.

But at heart, Moss is a boy from the Bronx who worked long hours as a Catskills waiter during the summer when he was growing up. Moss attended Brooklyn College "because I wanted to go to an out-of-town school," he quipped to moderator Kimberley L. Phillips, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Moss earned a degree in English with a minor in art—something that came in handy during an era when great art on the cover of an LP was almost as important as the music inside of it.

He told his captivated audience in the Woody Tanger Auditorium that it was his stint as a Catskills waiter that inspired him to go into music.

"Sometimes I would pull the entertainers' table—the musicians and comics the resort would hire to entertain. They seemed loose and fun, and I said to myself, 'I want to be at that table.'"

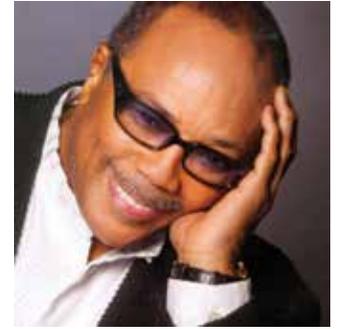
But it wasn't until a year after graduation that he was hired by Marvin Cane of COED Records, who had been dodging Moss' calls for the better part of a year. His first job was to promote "Sixteen Candles" by The Crests, and the song broke big, eventually rising to #2 on the Billboard charts.

"You learn a lot more working on a hit record than you do on a stiff," Moss said. But after a year he realized that success would elude him if he continued to work for Cane, and he moved to Los Angeles to become an independent record promoter.

"Working for yourself is hard, there's a lot of uncertainty, but when you hit—it's your business." But after a year of doing that, Moss realized, "my legs were only going to get me so far," and started making records with Herb Alpert.

Their first two singles were Charlie Robinson's "Love is Back in Style"—which went nowhere—and Alpert's "Tell It to the Birds," which did much better, selling thousands of copies. A few months later, Alpert's Latin-tinged single "The Lonely Bull" (a title suggested by Moss) gave A&M their first nationwide hit.

Moss spoke to Brooklyn College students at length about copyrights, contracts, and a thorny distribution problem that nearly cratered his company in the late 1970s. He also answered dozens of their questions about the music industry. —J.F.



Moss' clients included, top to bottom, Quincy Jones, Peter Frampton, the Police, Janet Jackson, and Sheryl Crow.

## New Veterans Affairs Center Opens on Campus



President Karen L. Gould and members of the college community gathered last fall to mark the opening of a new and expanded Veterans Affairs and Counseling Center in James Hall. Located on the building's main floor, the new space is roughly twice the size of the office's previous space, located in the basement of the building since 1997.

President Gould and Claudette Guinn, Veterans Affairs and Counseling Center coordinator, cut the ceremonial ribbon to room 1407 as a crowd of invited guests looked on from the hallway.

Guinn said that President Gould had been a strong supporter of the center. "When she first came to visit us down in the basement

two years ago," Guinn says, "I knew right away that she saw we needed more space. She made all this possible."

After the ribbon cutting, President Gould told guests that her father served in the Pacific during World War II. "The only way he could go to college was by way of the G.I. Bill," she said.

Provost William Tramontano said that his father fought in many of the battles in the European theater of that war and also made use of the G.I. Bill to pay for his college education.

"Not being in the basement anymore certainly is a benefit for us," says student Robert Belgrad, who served as an E-5 electronics technician in the Navy's submarine service from 2001 until last year.

"Not very many students have the need to go downstairs to the basement in James Hall, so they don't learn much about the center. Now, maybe, they'll see more of us and say, 'Hey, there are actual veterans going to college here.'"

Belgrad, a junior, is vice president of the Veteran Students' Organization (VSO). Founded in 1974 by Vietnam War veterans enrolled at Brooklyn College, the organization provided academic and peer counseling, and implemented drug abuse prevention programs that were eventually used throughout CUNY. VSO's annual activities include undergraduate and graduate



orientations and campus beautification projects.

The center's new location is divided into individual offices along with storage areas. "A veteran can now meet someone from the center's staff and discuss private information without others listening in," Belgrad said.

The Veterans Affairs and Counseling Center serves more than 200 veterans annually, including a growing number of women. Many of the students have served in active-duty combat zones, such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

Center staff members first walk prospective students through the college application process and then assist them with the steps needed to receive their veteran benefits.

Once he has his B.F.A., Belgrad hopes to become a peer mentor to help his former service members. "I plan to use my fine arts education to help veterans who may be suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder," he says. —R.S.

On December 17, 2012, President Karen L. Gould, Provost William Tramontano, Dean Maria Ann Conelli, Alice Gail Bier, director of the Office of International Education and Global Engagement and other college officials welcomed a delegation from China's Yangzhou University, headed by President Xin'an Jiao. Brooklyn College and Yangzhou University are planning to collaborate in the area of study abroad programs, as well as generating interest among Chinese students in the future Barry R. Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema when it opens in Fall 2015.

In addition to the president, the Chinese delegation included Yangzhou Director Tao Hong; Xiang Zhou, Director of the Office of State-Owned Assets Management; Qing Zhang, Deputy Director of the Office of Academic Affairs; Qingjun Hua, Deputy Director of the Financial Office; and Yin Zhang, Deputy Director of the School's International Office.



**Dr. Robert Oliva** is the director of the Magner Career Center. Established in 2003 with the generous support of Marge Magner '69, the center provides a wealth of services for students who will find themselves in a competitive marketplace after graduation. Dr. Oliva, who has worked for Brooklyn College for more than thirty years, has held positions in both personal and career counseling, and has worked as an adjunct assistant professor of sociology. In his current role, he strives to put students on the fast track for career success. Here, he talks about the how the center helps to prepare students for the job market and the importance of alumni involvement in guiding students along their career paths.



**Q: What makes the Magner Center unique?**

**A:** We provide competitive internship stipends that range anywhere from \$500 to \$3,500. At the end of 2012, we posted over 1,000 internships and placed 750 students. I would expect us to hit about 800 this year. Seventy-one percent of our students are employed upon graduation. This year we're probably going to register about 4,000 new students. But then of course there are the students who return, who are already registered, so that's another 2,000–3,000 returning students.

**Q: What services are available to students?**

**A:** Our job is to make sure that the students who go forward are the ones who will be competitive and ones employers will look well upon. We put a lot of time into talking with employers and getting them to send us information so we can find the students who are appropriate. We also bring in employers to talk to students on campus. We provide career planning and assessment, assistance with

selecting a major or finding an internship, pre-law advisement, professional skills training, resume review, interview training, full- and part-time job offerings, job search strategies, and alumni mentoring. We also host networking events each semester, which connect students with alumni who are very successful in their fields.

**Q: What is the importance of alumni involvement?**

**A:** Providing internships and mentoring is a practical and generous way for alumni to give back to their alma mater in a manner that helps a new generation of Brooklyn College students find their career paths successfully. Over 400 Brooklyn College alumni have served as mentors. Martin Sass '63, founder of M.D. Sass investment firm, for example, has accepted about thirty interns in the last two or three years. I think that's just a phenomenal commitment.

**Q: How can mentoring help alumni advance their own careers?**

**A:** Becoming a mentor often marks a maturing in one's professional life. These relationships help mentors to evaluate their own goals and aspirations, and build their professional resumes. Mentors develop specific qualities necessary for their continued career success, such as the capacity to motivate and inspire others, and develop coaching, communication and leadership skills. Providing internships can also help alumni expand the network of talent available in their companies or create a pool of future talent that is dependable and secure. Alumni-sponsored internships also

increase employee retention rates and productivity. By bringing in new energy, providing new ideas, and improving current work practices, alumni enhance their reputations and potential for advancement at their places of work. Many alumni also gain deep personal satisfaction from reaching out to a new generation of students, establishing connections that can last for years. I've often heard alumni rave about our students' dedication and work ethic. The mentoring relationships between alumni and students kindle hope in a shared future. The importance of helping to create responsible citizens cannot be underestimated. —J.R.

Of the **1,000** internships posted in 2012, **750** students were placed.

## Home Sweet Home for the 2012 Men's Soccer Team

They say you can't go home again. However, the saying does not hold true for the Brooklyn College men's soccer team, as the Bulldogs posted an unblemished record on their newly opened home field during the 2012 season, with eight wins, zero losses and one tie (8-0-1).

The new Brooklyn College Field opened for the Fall 2012 season, allowing the men's soccer team to once again play on campus for the first time since the 2004 season. From 2005–11, the team played its home games in various locations, including Brooklyn Parade Grounds, College of Staten Island, Floyd Bennett Field, Aviator Field, and more recently Kingsborough Community College.

"Having our own field this season was truly a huge boost and it showed in our play," says junior goalkeeper Stamatis Boundouris. "The team had newfound confidence and morale playing on the high-quality pitch, while having our fans cheering us on was yet another reason we went undefeated at home. It was an enormous convenience not having to travel to Kingsborough. The field has attracted many new prospective players and will definitely continue to be a great asset to the athletics program for many years to come."

The Bulldogs christened their new field under the lights on September 13, 2012, with a 5-1 victory against borough foe St. Joseph's College.

On the strength of its home field advantage, the 2012 season saw Brooklyn post a 13-5-3 overall record, including a 5-1-2 mark in the City University of New York Athletic Conference (CUNYAC). The Bulldogs would earn the #2 seed in the 2012 CUNYAC Championships, where Brooklyn eventually lost to top seed Baruch College in the championship final (4-2). Brooklyn had defeated #7 Hunter College (2-0) and #3 City College (1-0) in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively, to reach the final.

Following its loss in the conference final, Brooklyn would go on to earn the #6 seed in the 2012 Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Metro Men's Soccer Championships. The Bulldogs would play #3 seed New Jersey



City University to a 3-3 tie in their quarterfinals meeting, before eventually losing a heartbreaker, 4-3, in penalty kicks.

The thirteen wins in 2012 were the most wins in program history since the 1981 (13-3-3) and 1984 (13-2-3) seasons.

The 2012 edition of the Brooklyn College men's soccer team was also highly decorated by the CUNYAC, as Boundouris, defenders Peter Vavalle and Denton Laing, midfielders Alwyn Adams and Dmitry Prokofyev, and forward Pajtim Gjonbalaj were all named to the CUNYAC All-Star First Team, while Head Coach Rawle Hensford was named the CUNYAC Coach of the Year. —A.R.

## Team Spirit Prevails Post-Sandy

Although several months have passed, and many have filed Hurricane Sandy away as a bad dream, others are still struggling in the aftermath of the October 2012 storm. Brooklyn College athletes are no exception. With their determination and help from others, they made it through the 2012–2013 season.

Men's basketball team member Steven Diaz '15 saw the family car and much of his home in the New Dorp section of Staten Island destroyed as a result of the storm, forcing his family to move in with friends until they could rent an apartment. Diaz missed classes to stay and help gut his house. With no car it was difficult for him to make it to school. And there was also the emotional toll. "Focusing on something like biology class was tough when I did not have a home," says Diaz.

Danielle Mollo-Siano '16, a member of the women's swimming and diving team, missed what was to be her first college swim meet after the storm surge destroyed her car and apartment, which she shared with her grandmother in the Gerritsen Beach section of Brooklyn. But Mollo-Siano, who had even considered quitting the team, was encouraged

by her family to stick it out. "I really feel like being on the team helped take my mind off what happened and what I was going through," she says. "Also, I got to see my friends; it was a different atmosphere." She adds that the college's Evening Recreation Supervisor Maria Ortiz helped her with a "goodie bag" and other necessities.

Focusing on basketball helped Diaz through the crisis. "Being on the team helped distract me from the problems I had at home and I got tons of support from my coaches, teammates, and Athletic Director Bruce Filosa," Diaz says. He was also able to obtain Metrocards, food, and check into the possibility of housing through different campus networks.

"Being a part of the softball team definitely helped," said Norah Marley '13, who lives in Belle Harbor, one of the areas hardest hit. Marley was forced to move in with a former teammate. "My teammates were generous enough to come down and volunteer their time, helping to clean and gut our basement, and donating clothes and supplies to families in our neighborhood who lost everything in the fires and flood," she says. —A.L.

# BROOKLYN COLLEGE BULLDOGS 2012–13 CUNYAC ALL-STARS

## Men's Soccer

First Team All-Star: Alwyn Adams  
First Team All-Star: Stamatis Boundouris  
First Team All-Star: Pajtim Gjonbalaj  
First Team All-Star: Denton Laing  
First Team All-Star: Dmitry Prokofyev  
First Team All-Star: Peter Vavalle  
Coach of the Year: Rawle Hensford

## Women's Soccer

First Team All-Star: Sayla Flores  
Second Team All-Star: Janet Rodriguez  
Second Team All-Star: Catherine Quinn  
Second Team All-Star: Shani Nakhid-Schuster  
Rookie of the Year: Shani Abrahams

## Women's Tennis

Second Team All-Star: Gianna Gelosi  
Second Team All-Star: Maria Sanz  
Player of the Year: Yuliya Orkis  
Coach of the Year: Ahmad Odetalla

## Women's Volleyball

First Team All-Star: Jillian Escobar  
Second Team All-Star: Kathy Chu

## Men's Cross-Country

Patrick O'Leary-Gullo

## Women's Cross-Country

Megan Junglander

## Men's Basketball

First Team All-Star: Kavon Baker  
Sportsmanship Award: Steven Grant

## Women's Basketball

First Team All-Star: Brittany Bowen  
First Team All-Star: Vanessa D'Ambrosi  
Second Team All-Star: Nicole Francomano  
Second Team All-Star: Tiffany Thompson  
Sportsmanship Award: Charnelle Saint Laurent  
Coach of the Year: Alex Lang

## Men's Swimming & Diving

Antonio Gaspar

## Women's Swimming & Diving

Valentina Monroy



## Women's Basketball Sets Single-Season Program Record for Wins

The Brooklyn College women's basketball team concluded a historic campaign in 2012–13, as the Bulldogs posted a 24-7 overall record, to go along with runner-up finishes in both the City University of New York Athletic Conference (CUNYAC) Championships and the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Metro Championships. The twenty-four wins in 2012–13 set a new program benchmark for wins in a single season, surpassing last season's total of twenty-two wins.

The college concluded the regular season with an eleven-game winning streak, as the Bulldogs entered the 2013 CUNYAC Championships as the #2 seed after posting a 14-2 conference record. Brooklyn defeated #7 City College and #3 College of Staten Island in the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds, respectively, to reach their second straight CUNYAC championship game. The Bulldogs would come up short, falling to #1 seed Baruch College.

By virtue of its stellar play during the regular season, Brooklyn College's season would continue with its selection into the 2013 ECAC Metro Championships, its fifth straight selection, as the Bulldogs earned the #1 seed. Brooklyn defeated #8 Purchase College and #4 Mount Saint Mary College (N.Y.) in the quarterfinal and semifinal rounds, respectively; however, the Bulldogs would fall just short of capturing the ECAC Metro title, as Brooklyn lost to #2 Hartwick College in the final.

Key reasons to Brooklyn's success this season can be attributed to senior Brittany Bowen (First Team), junior Vanessa D'Ambrosi (First Team), senior Tiffany Thompson (Second Team), and sophomore Nicole Francomano (Second Team), as the foursome were named CUNYAC All-Stars. Head Coach Alex Lang was also selected as the CUNYAC Coach of the Year, his third straight honor and fourth award over the past five seasons.

"This was a tremendous season for our program," says Lang. "This was a very special team with tremendous talent, work ethic, and character. I think we did our best to represent the college, and we gave the school and our fans an exciting brand of basketball to come out and support."

With the expected return of both D'Ambrosi and Francomano for next season, Coach Lang, a relentless recruiter, will look to once again reload and make another run at the CUNYAC championship in 2013–14, and accomplish the ultimate goal of playing in the NCAA Division III Championships. —A.R.



## A Home AWAY FROM HOME

Ginsberg required students to have at least thirty pieces of poetry to be considered for a spot in his class, which wasn't a problem for Hakakian who had a book of her poems already published—albeit in Persian. "I handed him my book of poetry, he leafed through the pages and said, is this Persian? I said, yes, and he said, groovy."

Sure, he couldn't read the poems, but it didn't matter. "That in fact intrigued him so much, that I was immediately in," she says. Hakakian fondly recalls attending poetry readings with Ginsberg and reciting the works of Rumi so that he could hear how they sounded in Persian.

"In a way, having been admitted into his circle and having the blessing of his friendship enabled me to feel that I could switch languages and go from Persian to English, and be part of this community. I dared to cross over after I met him, and I owe him that for sure," she says.

After graduating in 1990, Roya worked as an editor of a Persian monthly called *Par* and then moved to the television side working as an associate producer with Peter Jennings' documentary unit, and CBS' *60 Minutes*, among others. Her first book, *Journey from the Land of No: A Girlhood Caught in Revolutionary Iran* (Crown, 2004), is a memoir about her early years in Iran. In 2011, she published a second book, *Assassins of the Turquoise Palace* (Grove Press, 2011), this time a literary nonfiction thriller about the killings of four Iranian dissidents in Germany and the justice system that ultimately prevailed. The book received numerous accolades and was named a *New York Times* Notable Book of the year.

Hakakian continues to write for several publications, including *The New York Times*, the *Daily Beast / Newsweek*, and the *Wall Street Journal*, and has published two collections of poetry in Persian. As an activist, Hakakian works with the Iran Human Rights Documentation Center, an organization she helped to found, and serves on the board of Refugees International. She's also currently working on a third book.

Of all her professional successes, Hakakian said she's most proud that she was able to cross over from one language and culture to another and "still have a voice within the literary landscape of this country." Something, she says happened after studying at Brooklyn College.

"I think Brooklyn College was in general, very accepting, and a very friendly environment towards surely an immigrant, but also somewhat of an unconventional spirit, which I was at the time," she says. "It was my first American experience, so I couldn't compare it to anything else. But now that I think about it retrospectively, it was really the experience that set me on the proper track." —J.R.

It was May 1985, and **ROYA HAKAKIAN**, a young, Persian Jewish woman from Tehran, Iran, had just arrived in the United States after leaving reluctantly on political asylum. It had been only a few years since the Iran hostage crisis, and Iran and Iraq were waging a war.

"I was a very unhappy teenager when I arrived," Hakakian recalls. "I was a very patriotic young woman, and I thought one doesn't abandon one's country when it falls into trouble."

Although many people in the United States didn't understand what was happening in Iran, Hakakian was relieved to find professors who did, and knew what she had experienced when she enrolled at Brooklyn College.

One of those professors was Bart Meyers, the head of the Psychology Department who passed away in January. Because of his political interest in Latin America, Meyers understood the struggle between democracy and theocracy that was happening in Iran. "Bart totally took me under his wing," she says.

Hakakian helped Meyers with a research project and he published an article where her name is mentioned. "It was a wonderful experience to feel that I had a professor—a father figure—who understood me in this new country, was watching out for me, and was trying to shepherd me through this difficult experience I was having," she says.

Another experience that stands out for Hakakian was the opportunity to study with Allen Ginsberg, the famed poet and political activist. "It was probably the high point of my Brooklyn College years the day I stopped by Allen's office," she recalls.

**Bernice Sandler '48** will be inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca, New York later this year for her role in the creation and passage of Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, prohibiting sex discrimination in education.

**Carol Bird Ravenal '49** had her paintings exhibited as part of an art show held at The Sulgrave Club in Washington, D.C.

**Janet Sider Kleinman '53** published *Flirting with Disaster: When Love and Nature Collide* with Brighton Publishing LLC.

**Harold Fromm '54** most recently authored a piece titled "How We Became So Beautiful and Bright: Deep History and Evolutionary Anthropology" for the *Hudson Review*, a quarterly magazine of literature and the arts published in New York City.

**Salvatore R. Maddi '54** was the recipient of a 2012 Gold Medal Award for Lifetime Accomplishments in Psychology, in the area of public interest, awarded by the American Psychological Foundation.

**Joseph V. Ricapito '55** was elected to the executive board of the American Italian Studies Association.

A collection of silkscreens, pastels, and prints of gardens by **Janet Lippmann '56** will be featured at a one-person show held at Brooklyn College's Boylan Hall.

**Martin Schreiberman '56**, distinguished professor emeritus of biology, was named outstanding advocate for Long Island's Science and Technology, Class of 2013. The award was presented by Long Island's Outstanding Advocates for Science & Technology at Westbury Manor, Long Island, New York.

**Franklin Stein '56**, with Martin Rice and Susan Cutler, published *Clinical Research in Occupational Therapy* with Cengage.

**Frederick N. Martin '57** recently saw a scholarship established in his name at The College of Communication of The University of Texas. Funds from this scholarship will be awarded annually to an outstanding graduate student

Dear Alumni,  
For those of us that weren't able to be in New Orleans for Mardi Gras, the Brooklyn College Alumni Association (BCAA) held its own celebration in the Student Center on February 19, 2013. A five-piece jazz band, banjo included, followed by a rockin' D.J., great music, good Cajun food, colorful beads, a ceiling of balloons, and glittering decorations made for a festive evening. Nearly one hundred students, alums, and BCAA board members had a wonderful time.

On Tuesday, March 19, the BCAA hosted its first annual "Salute to Seniors" event in the West Quad Center. Graduating seniors and alumni enjoyed an evening of food, fun, and Bulldogs volleyball, as the college took on John Jay College in the final men's home game of the season. Post-game desserts and victory sweets were served to our student athletes, seniors, and alumni. The event was free to all, sponsored by the BCAA and the Student Activities Committee.

The BCAA Annual Meeting took place on May 23 in our beautiful library. The highlight of this year's gathering was the presentation of the BCAA Student Awards to ten exceptional students, who each received \$4,000 in recognition of their exemplary service and contributions to the college community.

Commencement was on May 30, and the Class of 1963 celebrated its Fiftieth Reunion, marching in the processional in gold caps and gowns. A gala luncheon followed for members of the class and their guests. I presented my annual slide show and lectured on "Old Brooklyn." This always brings up memories and nostalgia for Coney Island, the trolleys, Lundy's, the Brooklyn Dodgers, and much more. By the way, April 9 marked the hundredth anniversary of the first game played at Ebbets Field, on April 9, 1913. (The Dodgers never moved; they're on an extended road trip.)

Your Brooklyn College Alumni Association is here for you. Get involved. Attend BCAA and chapter events. Visit our website at [www.alumni.brooklyn.cuny.edu](http://www.alumni.brooklyn.cuny.edu).

This is my final letter as president of the BCAA. For the past four years I've had the distinct honor of serving as your president. It's been exciting, hectic, fun, and a great and rewarding experience. Now it is time to pass the gavel to the new president, Jeffrey S. Sigler '92, who is the director of the freshman year program at Medgar Evers College/CUNY.

All the best,



Ron Schweiger, '70



For more than a dozen years, the voice that rings out in the U.S. Supreme Court "crying the court"—announcing the arrival of the justices and opening sessions—has belonged to **Pamela Talkin '68, M.A. '71**. She is the tenth marshal in the nation's history to serve that function, and the first woman to do so.

Crying the court into session is not Talkin's only task; she is also responsible for overseeing the security, operation, and maintenance of the Supreme Court Building, ensuring courtroom security and decorum, supervising seating and recording of the proceedings. In addition, the marshal coordinates ceremonies and arranges special events, such as the investiture of justices and visits from dignitaries. To assist her in these functions, she also manages the court's independent police force, which is charged with guarding the building and protecting the justices.

Talkin did not plan to be a court official, however. She earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish at Brooklyn College and began teaching that language in the New York City school system. In 1971 she added a master's in Spanish education from Brooklyn College, and later attended the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Talkin came to the Court after six years as the first deputy executive director of the Office of Compliance, the independent regulatory agency created by the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995. Talkin also served as president of the International Association of Labor Relations Agencies. —R.S.



**Berenice Suchoff Weinberg '36** celebrated her hundredth birthday on February 16. She joins a score or more of Brooklyn College graduates who will reach the century mark in 2013, including 102-year-old Sarah Sobleman Lefkowitz '33, the oldest alumna on record.

Weinberg now resides in Florida. More than forty guests from all over the country, as well as a small number from the British Isles, were present to celebrate with the former biology major on her birthday.

"I really liked science," says Weinberg. "Unfortunately, they didn't have a guidance office back then, so nobody ever told me that I could go on to further my studies. Instead, I took an office job after graduation."

She went on to marry M. William Weinberg, with whom she had two daughters. When the girls grew up, they married. "All four of them, my girls and their husbands, have their Ph.D.s," says Weinberg. "That's a benefit of a Brooklyn College education."

She adds that her education helped her to hold on to her love of science. "I always turn to the latest

scientific articles," she says. "It has helped me survive the pain."

Weinberg's husband, who died two decades ago, worked as a field director with the United Jewish Appeal, and the couple traveled quite a bit. "He helped establish the nation of Israel," the grandmother of five and great-grandmother of two says proudly. "He was always rushing off to meetings." Weinberg had "Gone to Another Meeting" engraved on her husband's tombstone.

These days, Weinberg enjoys spending her time reading and swimming in the pool at her condominium. —R.S.

Are you or any alumni you know approaching the century mark? Let us know! Contact us at [magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu) or write Brooklyn College Magazine, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210.

who plans to pursue a career in audiology.

A novel by **Deena Metzger '57** *La Negra y Blanca: Fugue and Commentary* (Hand to Hand), won the 2012 PEN Oakland Josephine Miles award for Literary Excellence. The award, for U.S. multicultural writers, promotes works of excellence by writers of all cultural and racial backgrounds and educates both the public and the media as to the nature of multicultural work.

**Ruth Brandwein '57** was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Association of Puerto Rican and Hispanic Social Workers.

**Sheila Hyman '59** was the recipient of a Woman of Valor award from the Florida Atlantic Chevra Hadassah Chapter.

**Frank J. Coppa '60** was the first recipient of the American Catholic Historical Association's Lifetime Distinguished Scholarship Award.

**Martin A. David '61** oversaw a successful Kickstarter campaign facilitating travel to The Gathering-

RSVP, a massive multidisciplinary cultural project in Cork, Ireland, that has invited him to create choreography.

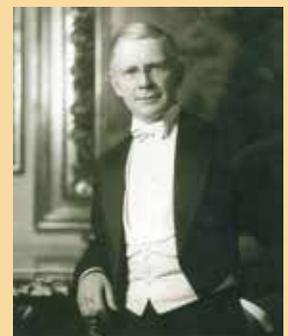
**Lucy Shapiro '62**, Anacor Pharmaceuticals co-founder, was named as a recipient of the National Medal of Science, one of the highest honors, bestowed by the U.S. government upon scientists, engineers, and inventors.

**Sandra Messinger Cypess '63** published *Uncivil Wars: Elena Garro, Octavio Paz, and the Battle for Cultural Memory* with The University of Texas Press. The book was awarded an Honorable Mention in Media and Cultural Studies by the 2012 American Publishers Awards for Professional and Scholarly Excellence.

**Dan Fauci '63** most recently produced and acted in the web-series *Whole Day Down*. The series received funding for a second season via a Kickstarter campaign.

**Sheldon Krinsky '63** was appointed to a two-year position as the Carol Zicklin Visiting Professor of

**1938:** Seventy five years ago, Brooklyn College held the school's first Country Fair. The event was created to raise money for the Student Loan and Scholarship Fund and to "promote relations between the various student-social organizations on campus."



(See more on page 40.) That year the college graduated its first class on the Midwood campus, having moved from the downtown building the college had occupied when it was established in 1930. **Dr. William A. Boylan** served his last year as the college's first president.

Philosophy in the Macaulay Honors College at Brooklyn College.

**John Parascandola '63** published *King of Poisons: A History of Arsenic* with Potomac Books.

The musical *Trolls Stole the North Pole*, penned by **Art Shulman '63**, premiered at the Secret Rose Theatre in North Hollywood, California.

**Joel Feinblatt '64** has assumed the position of associate professor and graduate program director for Regulatory and Clinical Research Management at Regis College in Weston, Massachusetts.

**Samuel L. Gaertner '64**, a professor of psychology at the University of Delaware, received the 2012 Career

Contribution Award from the Society of Personality and Social Psychology.

**Norman J. Lass '65** published *Review of Speech and Hearing Sciences* with Mosby.

Jamestown artist **Peter Marcus '65** was the recipient of two awards earlier this month at the Newport Art Museum's annual juried exhibition.

For her first solo exhibition at The Museum of Modern Art, New York-based artist **Martha Rosler '65** presented her work *Meta-Monumental Garage Sale*, a large-scale version of the classic American garage sale, in which museum visitors could browse and buy second-hand goods organized, displayed, and sold by the artist.

**Burt Allen Solomon '65** exhibited a selection of black and white photographs, entitled *Some Things Seen in Israel*, at the Derfner Judaica Museum at The Hebrew Home at Riverdale, New York.

**Hal Alpert '66** has been selected to chair the Taxation and Government Finance Committee for the California Association of Realtors.

**Fran Kornfeld '66** had a solo installation of handmade paper works titled *Climbing Kawa Karpo*, presented at Art 101 Gallery in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

The pottery of **Gale (Solin) Lurie '67** was recently featured in the 2013 Washington Clay Arts calendar.

**Joan LaVertu Rose '67** was honored by the Internet Systems Security Association as a Distinguished Fellow at the ISSA International Conference in October 2012.

**Miriam Eisenstein Ebsworth '68** was awarded the 2012 Outstanding Teacher Award by the New York State Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages for excellence in teaching and advocacy on behalf of English learners and families.

**Herman Fishbein '69** has been appointed as headmaster of Unicorn Village Academy, a Florida high school serving youth with developmental and learning disabilities.

**Warren Rosenberg '70** was appointed to the John P. Collett Chair of Rhetoric at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana.

## CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

**Do you have news to share with the Brooklyn College community? Please send information to your class correspondent listed below. If your class has no correspondent, you may send items directly to [alumni@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:alumni@brooklyn.cuny.edu), [magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu), or Brooklyn College Magazine, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210-2889.**

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# BARING IT ALL

Our report on the college's streaking phenomenon of March 11, 1974, in the last issue uncovered a number of alumni who witnessed or took part in the day's antics, which blocked traffic on Bedford Avenue and prompted action on the part of the college administration.



"I was there, and yes I 'participated,'" wrote Hilary A. Gold, who served as vice president of Student Affairs and Services at that time. Gold's stern letter to the campus admonished students for their unsanctioned behavior and reminded them that they risked arrest for "the crime of indecent exposure."

However, Richard Grayson '74 M.F.A., who shared with us his diary entry from that day, took a more light-hearted approach to the streakers:

*"Monday, March 11, 1974: At noon today I saw my first live streaking. I went to the college ostensibly to get something Xeroxed (a measure of my sincerity in that venture was the fact that I never did get it done). Helen and Susan and Michael (who'd obviously also just come for the streaking) called me over; Helen and Susan were standing on a bench.*

*"Never—not for any peace rally or athletic event or any speaker, save at graduation—have I seen so many people out on the quadrangle, overflowing to the Bedford overpass steps. The fun started when one naked guy bicycled around the quadrangle, waving to the crowd who 'oohed' and cheered and followed him about.*

*"He was followed by some guy in a cap who did somersaults, John Bucalo running by in sneakers and sweat socks, and a few more streakers wearing ski masks. It was great fun. Some went into LaGuardia, where they'd stashed their clothes in the SG (student government) office. Susan realized one young Adonis was none other than her brother Mark—that was funny.*

*"Mark Isacoff (the daytime CLAS student government president) said he'd spoken to Capt. Greenwald of the 63rd Precinct, who said as long as everyone stayed on campus, there'd be no arrests. It was all very nonsexual; the absurdity of it was what generated the enthusiasm.*

*"Susan Rosen suggested we go over to SUBO to hear Donald Barthelme read from his stories, and Randi and I followed, as the entertainment petered out into stopping cars on Bedford Avenue: silliness is not the same thing as stupidity.*

*"So you can see not only did we witness streaking, but immediately afterwards, we got to see and hear one of the greatest American short story writers of all time! There was always a lot to do at BC."*

Grayson, who has worked as a lawyer and college professor, has kept a daily diary for the last forty-three years. Some of his journal entries from 1969–70 have been published at [www.thoughtcatalog.com/author/richard-grayson/](http://www.thoughtcatalog.com/author/richard-grayson/). —A.P.

**1963:** Fifty years ago, President Gideonse launched doctoral programs at Brooklyn College.

The aim was to boost the school's reputation as "the borough's major college, a powerhouse of talent for the City University, and one of the most distinguished public colleges in the country." Also that year, Professor **John Hope Franklin** left his position as chair of the Brooklyn College History Department for the University of Chicago. He had been the first African-American man to become chair of a department at Brooklyn College.



**1988:** The first issue of the **Excelsior** newspaper was distributed that fall. The newspaper will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary on September 9, 2013. On April 11, the college introduced an undergraduate certificate program in film production. The program continues to provide training in film technology and prepare students to script, shoot, and edit films.



**Albert Hayoun '71**, president of Standard Resources Corporation, a marketing firm specializing in metals, minerals, and alloys has been elected to the board of directors of HIAS (Hebrew Immigration Aid Society).

**Bernadette A. Frett-James '74** received the Award of Excellence from the New York State Department of Labor.

**Barbara Levine Offenbacher '74** published *First Words...A Parents Step By Step Guide to Helping Their Child With Delayed Speech and Language Development* with Rowman and Littlefield.

**Dr. Miriam Rafailovich '74**, director of the Garcia Materials Research Science & Engineering Center at SUNY Stony Brook, was named an outstanding advocate by Long Island's Outstanding Advocates for Science & Technology during a presentation at Westbury Manor, Long Island, New York.

**Howard Kellman '75**, voice of the Triple-A Indianapolis Indians, worked as a sideline reporter for the YES Television Network on Yale football games.

**Michelle Herman '76** published *Stories We Tell Ourselves: Dream Life and Seeing Things* with the University of Iowa Press.

**Marie A. Roberts '76** had her murals and artwork exhibited in the Gallery SoBab, South Korea, and The Art Room in Brooklyn. The Brooklyn gallery opening was profiled in *The Brooklyn Paper*.

**Marc W. Michalowicz '77** was inducted as a fellow into the International College of Dentists in October 2012.

**Elihu D. Davison '78** has been re-elected to the New Jersey Democratic State Committee.



The National Medal of Science is often called “America’s Nobel Prize.” Administered by the National Science Foundation, it is the highest honor that can be bestowed by the U.S. government

on scientists, inventors, and engineers. In February, **Lucy Shapiro '62**, a developmental biologist on the faculty at the Stanford School of Medicine, who earned her baccalaureate degree at Brooklyn College, attended a White House ceremony, at which she was one of a dozen scientists awarded medals by President Obama.

Shapiro was recognized for her groundbreaking work using microorganisms to approach questions in developmental biology research. Her work in the field has been described as revolutionizing our understanding of bacterial genetic networks and led to the development of drugs to stifle the spread of antibiotic resistance and emerging infectious diseases. The President said that the honorees were the largest collection of brain power under the White House roof in a long time. “The incredible contributions that you’ve made have enhanced our lives in immeasurable ways,” he said in his remarks, delivered in the East Room.

A professor in the Department of Developmental Biology and Ludwig Professor of Cancer Research at the Stanford University School of Medicine, and director of Stanford’s Beckman Center for Molecular and Genetic Medicine, Dr. Shapiro received a B.A. in fine arts from Brooklyn College in 1962. But she put away her paints and brushes, and her undergraduate thesis on the medieval Florentine poet Dante Alighieri and turned to her true passion—biological research. She earned a Ph.D. in molecular biology in 1966 from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Her many honors include the Federation of American Societies in Experimental Biology’s Excellence in Science Award and election to the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. —D.S.

A television spot produced and directed by **Susan Katzing '78** was named a Bronze winner for Best Political TV Advertising as part of the Thirty-fourth Annual Telly Awards.

**Joel A. Sturm '79** has been promoted to chief operating officer of The New York College of Podiatric Medicine and The Foot Center of New York.

**Tama Kieves '82** has published *Inspired & Unstoppable: Wildly Succeeding in Your Life’s Work!* with Tarcher.

American Chemical Society National Award winner, **Stephen Radice '85**, is the recipient of the 2013 James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching.

Author **Nicole Titus '86, '89 M.A.** published a Creole translation of Plato’s three major works. Titled *Plato: Apology, Crito, Phaedo*, the book was published by the Trilingual Press.

Trinidad-born New York teacher **Neal Lutchme Singh '94** was one of seven recipients of the fourth annual Sloan Awards for Excellence in Teaching Science and Mathematics, presented by the Fund for the City of New York and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

A duo of novels penned by **Yael Levy '94**, *Brooklyn Love* and *Starstruck*, have been published by Crimson House. A third, *Touchdown*, will be published this summer.

**Michael Carosone '97, '07 M.A.** contributed an essay to and co-edited *Our Naked Lives: Essays from Gay Italian American Men*, which will be published by Bordighera Press.

**Silas W. Kelly '97** was featured on the National Association of Social Workers website for Black History Month.

**Laura Silver '98 M.F.A.** was recently profiled by *Haaretz Magazine* as a global knish scholar. Her book on knish history is forthcoming from Brandeis University Press in 2014.

**Vivian Rattay Carter '06**, author of *Images of America: Rockaway Beach*, donated \$2,000 worth of copies of her book to Hurricane Sandy victims. Her book contains many vintage pictures and historical information on the Rockaway area.

**Miriam Molnarova '06**, with Eva Bolemant, has published a book of essays titled *Vannak helyek* with Slovakian publishing house Media.

*Equinox*, an EP by **Tom Nazziola '06**, featuring Dan Willis, Doug Oberhamer, Derek Weiland, and Conrad Harris, was released by Goju Records.

*The New York Times Theater Review* warmly received **Kelly Copper '07 M.F.A.**, who, with husband Pavol Liska, brought their postmodern pop opera *Life and Times* to the city stage. The review lauded the show as “an ambitious, brilliantly executed production from one of the most innovative theater companies in New York.”

**Angelica Berry '12** completed an editorial internship at *ZINK* magazine and had a feature and several short pieces published in their holiday issue.

**2003:** The first annual senior ball, themed “A Ripple in Time,” was held. The college transformed the Student Center’s Penthouse, Maroon Room, and Gold Room into an exotic French café, dance floor, and an old-world-style dining room. In 2003, Distinguished English Professor Mac Wellman received his third Obie Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award, for his plays, *Antigone*, *Jennie Richee*, and *Bitter Bierce*.



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**1. Simon Wiesenthal Museum of Tolerance - Holocaust Remembrance Day, April 7** Dave Bryan, Special Assistant to Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Milga Morales; Rabbi Steven Burg; President Karen L. Gould; Adam Rudich, Director of Operations and Community Affairs, MOTNY.

**2. Secrets of Highly Successful Women Panel** Stella Lagudis '82, Managing Director of Global Strategic Sales, BNY Mellon, with President Gould.  
**3. Shirley Chisholm Day 2012 at Brooklyn College** President Gould; Professor Prudence Cumberbatch, Coordinator, Women's and Gender Studies Program; Professor Barbara Winslow, Department of Secondary

Education, Director of Shirley Chisholm Project of Brooklyn Women's Activism; Professor Iris Lopez; and Loretta Ross, Founder of SisterSong.  
**4.** Artist and activist Linda Stein with her portrait of Shirley Chisholm '46, a gift to the Chisholm Project.

**5. Magner Career Center, Pre-Law Career Workshop** Barry Hill '70; Alan Blum '78; Charisa Smith; and Rudyard F. Whyte '81.  
**6.** Award-winning poet and gay rights activist Staceyann Chin reads to an audience at Brooklyn College.



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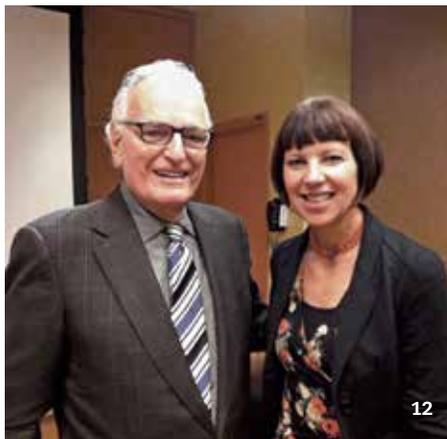
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**7. Student Center Fiftieth Anniversary**

Rachel Silberstein '14 with David Rosenberg '15, Assembly Speaker, CLAS.  
**8.** Edmund McKenna, BCSC Assistant Director of Operations; Irwin Ward, BCSC housekeeping; Calvin Abraham, BCSC Assistant Director of Student Services; Oleg Buga, BCSC maintenance; James Lopez, BCSC maintenance; Stanley Phinn, BCSC operations; and Josephine McKenna, former BCSC staff.

**9.** Mitzu Adams, Director/Administrator of the Brooklyn College Student Center; Moraima Cunningham, Director of Judicial Affairs and Civic Engagement; Marla Schreiber, Director of Alumni Affairs, Chapters/Affiliates; and Michelle Hecht, Events Specialist, Institutional Advancement.

**10. Mardi Gras** Joan Scodotto, BCAA President Ron Schweiger '70, BCAA board member Agnes Ford '69, Adelaide Roman, BCAA board members Barbara Pimentel '96, Martin Schreiber '56, and Arlene Lichterman '53.

**11. Associate Professor Jane Cramer Receives Mildred Lowe Award** Associate Professor Jane Cramer with Rosemary LaSala, Government

Documents and Reference Librarian for the St. John's University's Rittenberg Law Library.

**12. Legendary record executive Jerry Moss '57**, Co-Founder of A&M Records, with Katy Schlesinger, Foundation Officer of Brooklyn College Foundation.

**13. Brooklyn College Former Athletes Association Annual Dinner** Standing: Isabel Kessler; Abe "Boomie" Bressler '50; Joan Askinasi '56; Donald Schumsky '54; Susan Ross; Ron Ross '54. Seated: Stuart Kessler '50; Brooklyn College Vice President for Institutional Advancement Andrew Sillen '74; George Edelman '42.

As of March 28, 2013

**Faculty**

Jack Reed Collier  
*Department of Biology*

Setsuko Matsunaga Nishi  
*Department of Sociology*

Bart Meyers  
*Department of Psychology*

**Alumni**

Miriam Frantz Glassman '32  
Judith Coslow Temple '32  
Jane Sawicz Deppe '33  
Ronzone Colasuonno Felago '33  
Beatrice Levine Hurwitz '33  
Anna Cutaia Mapp '33  
Isabel Solomon Moros '33  
Robert R. Robinson '33  
Morton G. Stone '33  
Leo R. Goldbaum '34  
Sonia Botwinick Goldstein '34  
Irving M. Herman '34  
Ethel Cohen Liebmann '34  
Grace Goldstein Brown '35  
Irene Gansl Cooperman '35  
Lucie Bregman Esrick '35  
Mildred Wolfe Moshman '35  
Rose Shopsis '35  
Frederick W. Becker '36  
Abraham I. Goodman '36  
Lillian Jaffe Kent '36  
Seymour Lieberman '36  
Belle Abramson Schwartz '36  
Anna Adler Hecht '37  
Irene Karmin Margolies '37  
Lawrence Phillips '37  
Sylvia Levine Sherman '37  
Lester Weil '37  
Betty Levine Allen '38  
Ira S. Cohen '38  
Morris Dershowitz '38  
Samuel H. Hellenbrand '38  
Harold J. Reich '38  
Marion Brandner Schuler '38  
Milton Stevens '38  
Lucille Sunshine '38  
Myrtle Vacirca '38  
Lillian Schwartz Wasserman '38  
Nathan Cedars '39  
Muriel (Mitzi) Ginsberg Landsberg '39  
William A. Rapp '39  
Selma Kremer Rosen '39  
Norman C. Stoll '39  
Belle Rich Tanenhaus '39  
Morris Breiman '40  
Seymour Dombroff '40  
Bertram D. Donn '40  
Albert J. Eichel '40  
Abraham Swerdlow '40  
Shirley Freundel Green '41  
Shirley Edelman Greenwald '41  
Israel Jacobs '41  
Hermit I. Liebling '41  
Kermit T. Reiner '41  
Joseph Satten '41  
Sarajeon Kaplan Sherk '41  
Florence Katz Ziner '41

Owen Cooper '42  
Helene Galewski Hofflin Hirsch '42  
Philip Medvin '42  
Leonard Meinwald '42  
Gordon R. Meyerhoff '42  
Morris Nierman '42  
Samuel Olkinetzky '42  
Robert A. Osmers '42  
Seymour Polansky '42  
Beatrice Gelber Rosenbaum '42  
Ann Cohen Schwartz '42  
Allan Sedler '42  
Leo Zuckerman '42  
Gladys Hodes Barkas '43  
Elaine Gordon Fligman '43  
(Julie) Margalit Emanuel Lavee '43  
Sylvia Shulman Levine '43  
Rose Erlicht Ludmer '43  
Selma August Rubinstein '43  
Betty Lightman Rom '43  
Ferdinand Schwartz '43  
Bernice Banks Sims '43  
Aaron Stovitz '43  
Anna Held Zimmer '43  
Marie E. Collins '44  
Renee Landau Eidlin '44  
Joan (Josephine) Neglia Forrester '44  
Shirley Flam Kaufman '44  
Blossom Davidson Rappaport Stone '44  
Erna Judith Salomon Friedman '45  
Julius Glaser '45  
Francis S. Murphy '45  
Sarah Greenspan Rosenberg '45  
Miriam Haykin Silverman '45  
Phyllis Sharron Sirota '45  
Sidney D. Gerchick '46  
Sylvia Sukoff Hacker '46  
Rose Mann '46  
Blanche Tischelman Pobiner '46  
Gloria Nadell Scalettar '46  
Iris Loris Sokol '46  
Blossom Zahler Burkan '47  
Charney Pollack Feibish '47  
Leonora Rosenberger Flowerman '47  
Davina Richman Greene '47  
Mildred Levenson Hartman '47  
Frederic Holtzberg '47  
Jerome Silverstein '47  
Dorothy Garten Oakes '47  
Miriam Yelsky '47  
Doris Bressler '48  
Norman Burd '48

Sally Zaraleya Kurzweil Harari '48  
Henrietta Wallitzer Karasin '48  
Manuel Levenson '48  
Ruth Hirsh Lutzky '48  
Elicia Intrator Wolf '48  
Diana Berger '49  
Albert Friedman '49  
JoAn Luban Gewirtz '49  
Sanford Hordes '49  
Phyllis Schaum Kornfeld '49  
Marvin E. Lasser '49  
Phyllis Teichberg Margolis '49  
Daniel Stack '49  
Donald Shaffer '49  
Jerome L. Stein '49  
Emanuel L. Strunin '49  
Michael E. Cavuoti '50  
Adele Auerbach Waterman Furman '50  
Sylvia Bittkower Haber '50  
Stanley Isaacs '50  
Selma Herskovitz Kessler '50  
Stuart Kornblum '50  
Walter W. Tuchman '50  
Helen Stark Broizman Clarvit '51  
Milton Hollenberg '51  
Saul Horing '51  
Marion C. Shapin '51  
Neil Stockhamer '51  
Mildred Pollack Strassberg '51  
Corinne Schapiro Weiner '51  
Sol A. Wieselthier '51  
Jocelyn Goldstein Cantor '52  
Doris Ellman Cohen '52  
Lawrence A. Gould '52  
Leona Freedman '52  
Marilyn Ehrlich Mayerfeld '52  
Evangeline Petrakis '52  
Gene Silverstein '52  
Gloria Stern Penner Snyder '52  
Leonard Cohen '53  
Jerry Dincin '53  
Marvin Katkin '53  
Charlotte Feldman Mandel '53  
Alfred I. Meyerson '53  
Marilyn Levy Sarhis '53  
Elliot O. Bonfield '54  
Barbara Romolo Consiglio '54  
Herbert Gelman '54  
Richard A. Weinberg '54  
Nina Gare Aronson '55  
Arnold M. Dorman '55  
Shelly Baskin Richter '55  
Walter C. Silverstein '55  
Bernice Chornock Weinstein '55  
Marvin Charton '56  
Sidney M. Horowitz '56

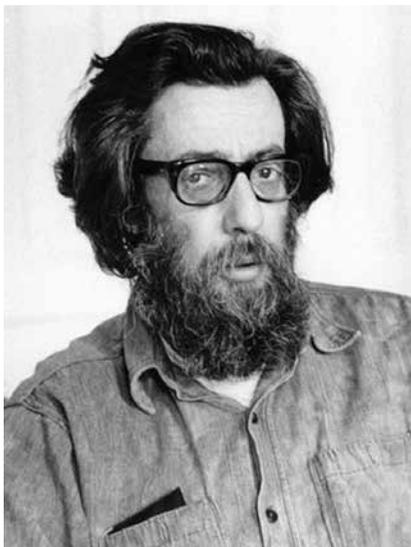
Bertha Horowitz Kressel '56  
Isaiah Sheffer '56  
Sidney L. Berger '57  
Florence Cohen Engel '57  
Walter J. Friedman '57  
Richard K. Helman '57  
Harry Levinson '57  
Robert H. Siegel '57  
Philip M. Stein '57  
Roslyn Weitzner Berkson '58  
Beatrice Mehl Deichman '58  
Samuel Horowitz '58  
Noreen O'Hara Caggiano Welch '58  
Edwin Feinberg '59  
Martin J. Hochberg '59  
Sandra Arlow Kirshenbaum '59  
Alvin J. Melveger '59  
Elaine Levin Schulman '59  
Harriet Abensohn Sommer '59  
Shirley Yasner '59  
Ronald L. Feldman '60  
Adam I. Klein '60  
Francis P. Mescall '60  
Charles M. Rafshoon '60  
Isaac H. Celnik '61  
Tobi Zimmerman Gordon '61  
Lea Wallace Dembitz '61  
Sanford Svetcov '61  
Ben Finkel Aliza '62  
Herbert Lauer '62  
Irene Taviss Thomson '62  
Sol Yurick '62  
Solomon A. Bockstein '63  
Isabel Niven Rosenblum Bross '63  
Juanita Alicia Brown '63  
John F. Burke '63  
Edwin M. Cohen '63  
Susan Blank Cohn '63  
Joel Leslie Forster '63  
Arthur B. Garzillo '63  
Arthur I. Heilweil '63  
Stanislaw Jelen '63  
Miles A. Kletter '63  
Norman Z. Keller '63  
David S. Leibowitz '64  
Joel A. Newman '63  
Norman L. Laefer '64  
Norman I. Rosenblum '64  
Marian Siegel '64  
Alan A. Kay '65  
Beverly Feit Koenigsberg '65  
Steven Lipp '65  
Ann Mazzeo Marshall '65  
Allan F. Milder '65  
Susan Sherman Polansky '65  
Frances Pardes Crystal '66  
Linda M. Levin '66  
Pauline A. Pulvirenti '66  
Branford M. Taitt '66

Lynn Globerman Stember '67  
 Nancy Schaff Weissman '67  
 Donald (Appelman) Allen '68  
 Marsha Moses Auerbach '68  
 Marsha Goldman Perlman '68  
 Rozalie Abrahamovits  
 Schachter '68  
 Eleanor G. Feinblatt '69  
 Harry S. Romanowitz '69  
 Marjorie E. Winkler '69  
 Jack Bernstein '70  
 Jack M. Brill '70  
 Irene Jacobson '70  
 Florence Briggs '71  
 Monroe Weintraub '71

Elise Kobrin Cutler '72  
 Linda Grobman  
 Fleischauer '72  
 Jacqueline Gilbert  
 Fierstein '72  
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 Stephanie Coleman Crant '73  
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 Carmen Ithier Diaz '87  
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 Dorothy A. Onyango '92  
 Stella L. Jackson '95  
 Constance Kramer '95  
 Leonora M. Lavaud '12



**Sol Yurick '62 M.A.**, a writer who is best known for his 1965 novel *The Warriors*, died in New York City on January 5, 2013, of complications from lung cancer. He was eighty-seven. The novel, which recast an ancient Greek battle into a tale of warring street gangs, earned a cult following in print, on film, and eventually in a video game.

The Manhattan-born Yurick attended Bronx High School of Science and served in the Army during World War II. Later he received a bachelor's degree in English from New York University and a master's in English from

Brooklyn College. As a student he read widely, absorbing Proust, Camus, and classic comics.

Yurick was forty when *The Warriors*, his first novel, was published. It told the story of a New York gang fleeing the Bronx to its home turf in Brooklyn after an attempt at gang unity had gone terribly wrong. He based the story on *Anabasis*, written by the Greek soldier Xenophon, who helped lead the retreat of 10,000 Greek soldiers after their failed conquest of Persia around 400 B.C.

Before *The Warriors* was published, Yurick worked as an investigator for the New York City welfare department. He modeled the characters of his novel on the people he served in the welfare office. "Some of the children of these families were what was then called juvenile delinquents," he wrote in the introduction to a 2003 edition of *The Warriors*. "Many of them belonged to fighting gangs. Some of these gangs numbered in the hundreds; they were veritable armies. This social phenomenon was viewed, on the one hand, as the invasion of the barbarians, only this time they came from the inside rather than from the outside."

He published several more novels, including *Fertig* and *The Bag*, and also wrote short stories and nonfiction. In 1979, *The Warriors* was made into a movie, developing a following that helped to put the novel back into print. —R.S.



**Setsuko "Suki" Matsunaga Nishi**, professor emerita of sociology at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center, died on November 18, 2012, in Mabou, Nova Scotia, Canada. She was ninety-one.

A distinguished scholar in the field of American race relations, Nishi was of Japanese ancestry. When Japan attacked the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor, her family was among the more than 110,000 Japanese Americans held in internment. Nishi, who was already an

honor student at the University of Southern California, was forced to leave school.

Nishi was granted special leave by the U.S. government to finish her education and received bachelor's and master's degrees in sociology at Washington University in St. Louis in 1944. She moved to Chicago, where she organized community forums that bridged the gap between African-American and ethnic Japanese communities, and became a visible activist for equality. Along with noted African-American sociologist Horace R. Cayton, she helped found the Chicago Resettlers Committee, a social service agency now known today as the Japanese American Service Committee. She received her doctorate in sociology from the University of Chicago in 1963.

From 1965 until she retired in 1999, Nishi was a professor of sociology at Brooklyn College and the CUNY Graduate Center, and taught the school's first courses on Asian American studies. She was known for her dedication to combining scholarship with community involvement. She served on the New York State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights for three decades, including five years as chair.

At the time of her death, Nishi was preparing a national study, "Recovery and Hidden Injuries: Wartime Incarceration and the Life Course of Japanese Americans," which compared the long-term outcomes of those who, during wartime, left the internment camps to go into the Army, to college, to work, or to be further interned as "disloyal" at what the United States called segregation camps. —R.S.

## Fun Times at the Country Fair

When Brooklyn College found that its graduate scholarship program was low on funds in 1938, Dean Adele Bildersee and fellow administrators came up with a creative solution: For one day in May, the college would cancel classes and hold a country fair. This wacky and colorful celebration, which combined elements of the circus, carnival, and rodeo, would become a staple at Brooklyn College for the next fifty years.

The Country Fair was held annually on the Midwood campus, which had previously served as the staging area for the Barnum and Bailey circus. The fair featured ribbon-cutting ceremonies, game booths, food stands, student kings and queens, zany competitions, and floats. It became a highly anticipated event, raising thousands of dollars for need-based scholarships.

Arthur Saltzman '60 and Steven Emmett '63 D.O. remember the fairs of the 1950s and 1960s, presided over by President Harry Gideonse, who began his tenure in 1939, a year after the fair was instituted.

"It was the big spring event on campus," says Saltzman. "We would build enormous structures and be ready to compete against all the other student organizations."

Saltzman had declared a rigorous major, physics, but still found time to help create a giant Mickey Mouse with his fraternity, Tau Delta Phi, to attract fairgoers to a booth where they planned to sell popsicles. "We wanted to create a very, very tall Mickey Mouse holding a 'mousicle,'" says Saltzman.

"We had to pre-construct it in our fraternity house in a modular fashion, then dismantle it and reconstruct it the morning of the fair. We toiled until all hours of the morning and then had the problem of how to get it out of our fraternity house, which was on the second floor of an off-campus building. Fortunately, it was about 4 a.m. and there was little traffic," adds Saltzman, who says he was drawn to Brooklyn College's "elite academic program and basketball team." He played varsity basketball his sophomore, junior, and senior years, and was team captain his senior year.

During his senior year in 1963, Dr. Steven Emmett, a biology major, entered the King of the Country Fair competition (there was also a separate contest for queen) dressed in the full regalia of a winemaker from a well-known winery. Outlandish costumes were encouraged. "I was coerced by my fraternity brothers from Phi Epsilon Pi, which later merged with Zeta Beta Tau, being the



shortest member," says Emmett. "As I remember, I rolled an old beer keg across the stage in front of the judges, stopped, pointed to myself, and claimed to be the winemaker himself. That got me the title that year."

By the 1990s, the Country Fair, with its costume and bubble-blowing competitions, mock marriages, student-faculty softball games, beer gardens, and "moonshine" stands, came to an end due to a continuous rise in the "working-student" population, which had less and less time for extracurricular activities; many were commuting from home to school and then going straight to work after classes. And for those students who had the spare time, there were other more popular activities on campus, which eventually eclipsed the country fair. Still, it holds fond memories for many alumni. —D.C.

*Did you attend the Country Fair? We'd love to hear your memories of the annual celebration. Please contact us at [magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu) or write Brooklyn College Magazine, 2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210.*



On March 12, 1941, Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, seen here sporting a Brooklyn College sweater, performed on campus for students and faculty. The jazz trumpeting great was honored by the school with the

degree "Doctor of Swing." He would play again at the college with his All Stars in 1959. Did you see Pops, as he was fondly called by friends and fans, at either appearance? Send your memories to [magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:magazine@brooklyn.cuny.edu).



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